

A
SERIES OF LETTERS.

ADDRESSED TO

SIR WILLIAM FORDYCE, M. D. F. R. S.

CONTAINING

A Voyage and Journey from England to Smyrna, from thence to Constantinople, and from that Place over Land to England ; likewise an Account and Description of the Counties, Cities, Towns, and Villages, through which the Author passed ; together with the Treaty of Commerce between the Court of Great Britain and the Sublime Porte.

Translated from the Original into English by the AUTHOR.

To which is prefixed,

A Short ANSWER to VOLNEY's CONTRADICTIONS on ALI-BEY's HISTORY and REVOLT ; and an APPENDIX ; containing a particular Description of the Holy Land, and a concise Narration of the modern Patriarchs who resided in that Holy See, from the Beginning of the Sixteenth Century to the present Time ; with some Anecdotes.

By S. L. Κοσμοπολιτης.

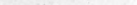
V O L. I.

L O N D O N :

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P R E F A C E.

THE following letters, which contain an account of part of my voyages and travels, were at first only written with the intent of amusing my friend Sir William Fordyce; but as he thought they would afford some information to the curious traveller, as well as amusement to the public in general, he has permitted me to present them to the world, by publishing them.

In the early period of my life, nothing was more distant from my thoughts than

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that ever I should become an author ; nor could I ever as yet have been induced to entertain that ambition, had it not been in compliance with the wishes of some of my friends, to whom, from necessity and sad reverse of fortune, I have been compelled to lay under many obligations. Solicited by them, as it was the only method by which I could testify my gratitude, I first gave to the public the History and Revolt of Ali Bey. That relation, if nothing else, has certainly authenticity to recommend it, since it was neither a compilation from various authors, nor any account drawn up from hearsay, (as some authors, but more especially Mr. Volney, have since made theirs,) but to the greatest part of what I there wrote I was an eye witness.

The following letters, containing the observations which I made in my voyages

and travels, are now presented to the public, unadorned with any embellishments of art, and have nothing to boast of but their simplicity and genuineness; for as it was not my intention to swell the size of my book, by borrowing accounts from other authors, and imitate those pretended travellers who sit in their own closets and write their journies over the whole world, no more than compilations from others; I only here offer a concise description of the various countries through which I passed: for had my intention been to impose on the public a voluminous work, without having recourse to the expedients of plagiarism, I could have formed several volumes, of other travels made in former periods of my life, for which my memory would have afforded me sufficient matter.

In the year one thousand seven hundred

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and forty-six, about the middle of June, I went to Damietta, or Pelusium, and thence to Cairo, where I staid till one thousand seven hundred and forty-nine. In the middle of October, in that year, I went to Ruffeto, or Canabos, and thence to Alexandria; in this place I remained till the latter end of December, and then embarked on board a Turkish man of war, in company with Rahip Mahomet Bashaw; for a relation of mine, under whose guardianship I then was, was in the service of that personage; in his retinue I went to Petrum, or Halicarnassus. But having passed the island of Rhodes, and meeting with stormy weather, we took shelter in the port of Macri, or ancient Micali, a very convenient and safe harbour, defended from all boisterous winds.

During our stay in this harbour we were
very

very near destroyed by a thunder-bolt, which fell on the main mast, made a hole through the middle of it, descended into the well of the pump, and then came up to the deck through the middle hatch ; it hurt four of the Bashaw's men, who were lying on the under deck, and then passing by the long boat, near to which was a large sheep of Caramania, which it killed, and thence went to the place where the Bashaw's horses were kept, and, without doing them any injury, it afterwards went out at a port hole at the head of the ship and disappeared.

The mast of our ship was all in flames, which, with the darkness of the night, caused great confusion among the crew of the ship ; not knowing how to extinguish it, after some difficulty they cut it down, and it fell into the sea, by which means we

were saved : the next morning we saw the frigate, which was in company with us for the purpose of carrying the Bashaw's baggage, without her stern gallery, which had been burnt, but happily extinguished before it had done any other considerable damage. Strange as this phenomenon may appear, it is no less true ; and had not I myself been eye witness, I should not have ventured on the description,

My relation seeing this phenomenon, resolved to continue no longer his voyage, but, hiring a Sakoleva, or country trading vessel, took leave of the Bashaw, and sailed next day for Petrum, or Halicarnassus ; but the wind blowing strong from the Gulph, we were obliged to anchor on the right hand point of it ; and having disembarked with our baggage, though it rained very hard all night, we were exposed to the
open

open air without any shelter whatever. The next morning, however, camels for our baggage, and five horses for ourselves to ride on, were sent by the Governor of Petrum; and we happily arrived at that place the sixth of January 1750, at about five o'clock in the afternoon.

During the time that we were waiting for the arrival of the Bashaw and his retinue, Cara Osman Oglou, and other Beys of different provinces, came and brought with them every thing necessary for his reception. Ten days after the Bashaw arrived, and was received by the Governor of that place, Menexis Bey, and the afore-said Cara Osman Oglou, a very powerful man, together with several other Beys, with great pomp. The Riala, (for that was the name of the ship,) commanded

by Bichachee Mahomet, came into the harbour with a jury mast.

Having staid till the Bashaw's people and baggage were come on shore, we parted for Melles, or Melitus, where we staid a few days till the roads were repaired. After a day's journey we passed the river Meandrus, and in three days after we arrived at Giufel-Iffar. Here we staid for fourteen months; at the expiration of which time my relation's indisposition, as well as his private affairs, obliged him to ask permission of the Bashaw to retire somewhere in the country for the benefit of the air. Having obtained this, we set off for Smyrna, in which place he was taken very ill; but recovering about three weeks after, we hired a vessel to go to Constantinople. We had a good passage as far as the Dardanel, or Siftos, and Abi-

thos; but after having passed these, we were overtaken with a heavy storm, and very near being lost; with great difficulty, however, at last, we took shelter at Cutali. Having re-embarked three days after, we arrived at Constantinople without any other accident.

Having staid at this place for six months, I afterwards took leave of my relation, (though much against his inclination,) invested my little money in merchandise, and sailed for Alexandria; but as the ship had not cargo enough, we went to Kush Adassi, or the Birds Island, (which is old Ephesus,) in order to load with wood; while she was loading I went on shore, amusing myself with the old ruins of that once-famous place, which is at some distance from the present town. Ten days after, to my no small disappointment, an
order

order came from the Porte for the merchant ship to go to Salonikio, and load with corn for government ; I was obliged to go with it, and the more so as the Captain encouraged me with assurances that I could find a good market there for my goods. On our passage we visited the Asiatic Islands, Cio-Skiro, and Tino ; and, on the Continent, the Mount Athos, Volo, and Cassandria. At last we arrived at Salonikio towards the middle of October, 1751, after a contrary wind of three weeks,

The Captain being a Greek, and well acquainted with the place, recommended me to a Greek merchant, by whose assistance I sold my goods, wholesale, at a clear profit of forty per cent. ; after which I staid in that place till the winter was over. The aforesaid merchant advised me to invest my cash in tobacco and iron bars, of
both

both of which great quantities are brought from Macedonia and all Theſſaly. Having purchaſed a ſufficient quantity, I embarked them on board a Turkiſh merchant ſhip, of rather more than a thouſand tons burthen, which was wintering there, and was deſtined for Alexandria; but before the ſpring came on, to my miſfortune, the Captain died, and a meſſenger being ſent to his family at Conſtantinople, the ſhip was immediately ſold, and afterwards ordered to ſail for that place; I accordingly went with it, purpoſing, if I ſhould not find a good price for my merchandize, to re-embark them in another ſhip, and go to Egypt. I arrived the ſecond time at Conſtantinople the latter end of May, 1752, and fortunately ſold my goods at no leſs a profit than at the firſt place. I ſtaid there till September, at which time I hired a Ragufian ſhip, in which I put freſh merchandiſes,

chandises, and about fifty Greek Pilgrims, for Joppa.

I left that place the twenty-second, and in our way touched at Terkirday, or Rhodosto, for provisions ; afterwards at Calipoli, the Chanac Calesi, or Earthen-ware Castle, (which is Sestos.) The wind not being favourable, staid three days ; during which time, having viewed that place, I crossed the water, and went to see the opposite castle, which is Abithos, and Maytos, a Greek town adjacent.

As soon as the wind was favourable I sailed from hence and went to the Isle of Cio, staid there three days, took on board twenty more Pilgrims, and then touched at Samos, Stankio, or Coos, Rhodus, Myra, Satalia, or Atalia, and afterwards at Damiatia, or Pillusium, where I sold the
greatest

greatest part of my goods, to Maalim Michael-farha, with whom I became intimately acquainted : I afterwards bought flax, rice, sugar, coffee, and sailed for Joppa ; but the wind not permitting, I went to Cyprus, where I sold part of the remaining goods of Constantinople at a profit of almost cent. per cent.

Two days after I sailed from that place and arrived at Joppa, where I disembarked the Pilgrims ; and four days after I sailed for the coast of Syria, touched at Acri, or Ptolmaida, Saida, or Sidon, and sold most part of my rice and sugar, and bought tobacco instead ; touched afterwards at Baruth, or Beritos, Tripoli, Latekia, or Laodicia, at which places I sold the rest of my cargo, and bought more tobacco, some silk, and Damascian manufactures ; from thence I went to Scanderune, then to Alayia, or
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Layazio, from thence to Rhodes again, and afterwards to Constantinople; sold my goods at a good profit, and prepared a fresh cargo.

In September 1753 I hired a larger Ragusian ship for Damietta and Joppa, took on board eighty Greek Pilgrims, at six-and-twenty dollars each, set sail on the sixteenth, after touching in several places, which were mentioned in the last voyage; went to Cios, took on board twenty-five more Greek Pilgrims, and arrived at Damietta about the middle of October, where I sold my goods to Farha, except the Caviar, which was sold at Cyprus; I then went to Joppa, discharged the ship, went to Jerusalem, and staid in the Holy Land till April, 1756.

From thence I went to Smyrna, Naxia,
Micono,

Micono, Paro, Antiparo, Tino, Androzia, Thermia, and afterwards to Aigena and Athens; from Athens I went to Sparta, after having visited in my passage Culuri, or Salamin, and Trigera; went on shore at Eleos, a port of Lacedemon, hired two mules and a horse for my baggage and myself, went to Misithra, or Mistra, and Tripolitza, from thence to Patraso, or Patrai; there I hired a vessel to go to Sefalonia, Ithaca, St. Maura, or Leucas; from thence I went to Prevesa, or Actium; afterwards I went to Corfu, or Corcyra, then to Bucentro; from thence to Old Epirus, which is now called Phanari, then went to see the ruins of Nico Polis; in this place is a Greek convent, where are many ancient curiosities to be seen: went again to Actium, from thence to Arta, the capital of Acarnania; then back to Voniza, or Vonitza, from thence to Zant, and Arcadia;

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went by land to Gastuni, or Belveder, crossed the water to Cephalonia, from thence to Corfu, hired a vessel for Scopelo; in my passage touched again at Zant, then at Navarino, or Pilos, Mothon, and Coron; afterwards at Malvassia, or Monovassia; all which are on the Peninsula of Peloponesus, or Morea; from thence I arrived at Scopelo the beginning of October, 1762, where I bought a cargo of wine, and set off for Constantinople; but after passing the Dardanel, was cast on shore at Chardak by stormy weather; the ship received a little damage; and while she was repairing I went to see Lampfacus, from thence crossed the water to Calipoli, and sent orders to the Captain to proceed to Constantinople, while I took a boat and went on before; after touching at two places, at Marmara, or Priconigus, and Heraclea Rodosto, I arrived at Constantinople,

ple, the middle of December, and towards the latter end the ship arrived.

Here I soon sold my cargo; and in February 1763, prepared a fresh cargo for Tamiata, Cyprus, and Joppa. And after visiting the said places, and having disposed of my goods, I discharged the ship, and went to the Holy Land. I parted from thence, May the 26th, went to Cyprus, sent some goods to Trieste, from thence to Rhodes, Samos, Cio, Smyrna, and Constantinople; left that place the beginning of August, took a vessel for Napoli de Romania, or Nauples; and after visiting Argos, went on horseback to Corinth; from thence I went to see the Great Grotto, or Cave, in which is a large convent of more than eighty cells, together with a church, in which is a picture of the Virgin Mary, painted by St. Luke,

as it is believed. From thence, in my way I visited another convent of nuns dedicated to St. Michael, then went to Vostitfa, and from thence to Patraso; some time after sent goods to Ancona, and then crossed the water to see Lebanto, or Naupectois; from thence to Misolongi, the present capital of Etolia; from thence I took my passage for Otranto, performed there half of the quarantine; hired a feluca to carry me to Pescara; and in my passage visited Prindisi, Bari, Mola, Barleta—Pesckitse, in this last place the manna trees grow. Arrived at Pescara, the first of July, 1764, staid there two days, took a boat and went to Grotai; after I sent my baggage by sea to Ancona, took horses for Loretto, staid there two days, then took a post-chaise, went to Ancona, sent the goods from thence to Sinigalia by sea; being freed from the quarantine,

quarantine, four days after I went to the same place by land. After the fair was over, hired a Dalmatian vessel for Trieste; in August settled part of my affairs, took a beota or boat, went to Piran, where laid two days; as the wind was contrary I parted from thence, and went to Aquilia, where I slept; next day arrived at Venice, parted from thence the middle of September, went to Ferrara, from thence to Bologna, where staid only a week, and then took a caleffo or carriage for Florence, spent another week there, from thence went to Pisa, then to Leghorn, staid there till the middle of November; took my passage for Messina, arrived there in two weeks. I departed from that place the tenth of December, for Naples, on board the King of Naples xebeck, commanded by Cavalier Quatro Mani; arrived there in three days, and staid till

March 1766. As I was in a bad state of health the physicians advised me to quit the place, I therefore took a callesso for Barleta; the journey increasing my indisposition I staid there thirteen days; being then able to take a sea voyage, I hired a trabaculo, or Sclavonian vessel, for Fium; from thence I took four horses, for myself, baggage, and servants, and went by land to Trieste, settled all my affairs there, took a vessel for Corfu about the middle of May, and in my course I visited Capod, Istria, Zara, Leisina, the Isle of Cursula, Ragusa both the new and old towns, all on the coast of Dalmatia; arrived at Corfu, the 29th, having settled my affairs there, I went to Zant for the same purpose: then in 1767, in the month of January, took my passage for England, arrived here in April, staid till June, when I took my passage for Peterburgh,

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and arrived there in nineteen days, and staid there till the twenty-sixth of September; took my passage for Amsterdam, arrived there twenty third of October; staid there till the sixteenth of November, when I took my passage again for England; arrived here the twenty ninth, and staid till June the sixth, 1771; sent my goods by sea to Salerno; I went to Bright-helmstone, took my passage for Dieppe, from thence to Roen, then to Paris, Lyons, Avignon, Bokers, Marseilles; from thence I took my passage for Naples, arrived there August the seventh. The same disorder which I had before being renewed, I left that place towards the middle of September, for Messina, arrived in five days in an English vessel, hired a ship under the Venetian flag for Alexandria; parted twentieth October, and arrived there November sixteenth; went from hence to Cairo

the twenty second ; the next day, went to Ali Bey, accompanied by Maalim Michael Pharha, stayed there till April 1772 ; from hence went with him to Palestine, and stayed there till the beginning of April 1773 ; parted from Gasa for Egypt, were defeated the thirteenth at Salachia, went back to Gaza, and from thence to Joppa and Acre ; departed thence April twenty third, took my passage in a French ship for Malta ; arrived there the middle of June, performed the quarantine twenty eight days, stayed till the eighth October, parted for Genoa, arrived there the twentieth, stayed till the middle of November 1774, parted with an English ship for Lisbon, arrived there December the eighth ; stayed till the eleventh of February 1775, and arrived in London the twenty third.

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The candid reader, I hope, will excuse this tedious prolixity in my preface, as I have partly been compelled, (unpleasant as it may be to relate the past transactions of my life) to give this short account of my former travels, by the unjust assertions of Mr. Volney, who, taking advantage of my absence from England, and imagining, I suppose, that I should never return, has undertaken to publish to the world his fictitious travels, and to contradict many of the circumstances in the history and revolt of Ali Bey, to which I myself was an eye witness. This account, then, of my former travels, tedious as it may appear, will serve to convince the public, that my relation of Ali Bey's revolt was not the work of Hearsay, but that as being present in the country, I was more likely to derive fuller information, and

consequently gave account of circumstances as they really were.

The following work contains, first, a short Answer to Volney's Contradictions ; secondly, Letters to Sir William Fordyce, which, together with the description of the countries through which I passed, contain the Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and the Porte ; and in the third place, as Mr. Volney passed in silence a particular description of the Holy Land, I have annexed, as an Appendix to this Work, a full account of it, as it was the last time I was there, in A. D. 1763.

AN

ANSWER TO VOLNEY.

AN artist wishing to construct some new machine, and not having the proper materials, is at a loss how to proceed, except opportunity offer proper objects to answer his purpose. So it happens with some Authors, who not having in themselves proper knowledge of real transactions, wait till they meet with some authentic account of them in others, and then begin to treat on the same subject appropriating the labour of others to themselves. This fact is manifested in Ali Bey's History and Revolt; whose Author not having any idea of informing the public

public of the transactions of this unfortunate Prince, kept no minutes while in his service, never thinking he should be reduced to be the narrator of his master's and his own calamities, till some of his friends prevailed upon him to publish a concise relation of the above Prince's life and actions, assuring him that they would assist him in the printing of it; being therefore under obligations to them, and to the public in general, for their kind protection, he was obliged to apply to his own memory for what he was eye witness to; and whatever he has heard, (which may be deemed authentic) not from merchants, but from those who were Beys, and most of them brought up in Ali Bey's palace, especially from that Prince himself while he was Hafnadar, or Treasurer to his master Ibrahim Kia-haya, and simply without applying to or seeing

seeing any other author's work concerning the above subject, he entertained the public with veracity.

Before this publication (which was ten years after the destruction of this unhappy Prince.) No one attempted to inform the public of those transactions, but after it was published, two authors, one an Englishman, and the other a Frenchman, appropriated part of it to their own use, and were modest enough to pass it in silence without finding fault with the author.

The third, who calls himself Volney, was not satisfied with that booty, but he moulded and changed it to different shapes, and not only confounded the names, but contradicted the author's simple veracity. And if the judicious reader

der will compare the author's relation with those who wrote after him, no doubt he will form a right idea of it, and give the preference to the original narration.

Volney may have some reason for contradicting that part concerning Amazia with that of Abaza, which was not the fault of the author, but the corrector's addition, who thought himself well versed in ancient geography, for the author wrote simply Abaza, not thinking it necessary to describe its situation, as his intention was only to mention Ali Bey's native country.

But for the other contradictions he objects to, the author thinks he is deceived; for he first confounds Mahomet Bey's purchase by the Jew, with that of Ali Bey's; secondly, he is ignorant of Ali Bey's father

ther coming to him at Grand Cairo, bringing with him, at the same time, his daughter (whom Ali B y married to Abudahap) as also his nephew, Rosvan Bey. Likewise he confounds the names of the other Beys who were with him after his retreat from Egypt to Palestine, and evidently shews his ignorance of the true transactions of that Prince.

Thirdly, he says in his notes, that when the merchants heard of the name of Mary, Ali Bey's wife, they laughed at it; to which the author of the History of Ali Bey answers with authority, that not only his eyes were witnesses to such a person, but even in November 1771, had the honour of being permitted by Ali Bey to offer her personally some presents which he had brought with him from Europe.

Fourthly,

Fourthly, he says that Mohammed Bey Abudahap, after he took Sham, or Damascus, left it in three days, and marched with precipitation towards Cairo, which is a plain falsehood, for Abudahap was in possession of it forty-five days, and then marched towards Said, in Upper Egypt, and not to Cairo, as Volney asserts. Among other fabulous circumstances, he relates one concerning Ayiup Bey (surnamed Latif, which signifies in English, talkative or humorous) who was all the time with Ali Bey, in Palestine Sound, and perfectly well in all his members and faculties.

In the year 1772, September 16th, the Russian officers who came to accompany Sulficar Bey from Naxia to the camp, during the siege of Joppa, visited most of the Beys in their quarters, and especially
 Ayiup

Ayiup Bey, who was then on the north-east side of the town with Halil Bey, near the Turkish burying ground; and by the desire of Ali Bey, Captain Brown disembarked three of his ship guns, and erected a battery for the said Beys; for this falsehood then, concerning Ayiup Bey, the said officers will reproach him; as one of them, whose name was Sergius Plecheof, wrote down the names of all the Beys who were then with Ali Bey, as aforesaid, and before his departure left his address with the author, to inform him of the progress of the siege, and other occurrences that might happen afterwards; although the author in, the capacity he was then in, for particular reasons did not fulfil his request.

Again, he says that when Ali Bey left Gaza, Otman, and not Osman, the third son

son of Sheik Daher commanded the auxiliary troops of his father, which is another great falsehood; for Otman, after he was at variance with his father in the beginning of the year 1771, went to Grand Cairo; and when Ali Bey retreated to Palestine, he went with him with hopes to make a reconciliation with his father by the means of Ali Bey; but his father would hardly see him, and ordered him to retire to his house or castle on the borders of Gallilee, and never appeared the whole time Ali Bey was with Sheik Daher, (this circumstance the author did not wish to insert in his book, being a family dispute, and would never have mentioned it if Mr. Volney's false narration had not rendered it necessary) the truth is, that Sheik Slebi, Daher's eldest son, and Sheik Crime, his son-in-law, commanded their father's troops. The first was killed in
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the second battle, and Crime made his retreat, where the author, with those which are mentioned in the book, joined him, and went to Ali Bey's tent, who was then indisposed, and seated on a stool at the door of it, and was not, as Mr. Volney asserts, in the engagement. He also says that Murat Bey was sent by Abudahap with a thousand men, and wounded Ali Bey, and took him to Abudahap; the truth is, that Murat Bey was in Ali Bey's service, and not in Abudahap's; for in the first attack, Tantavi, who headed Ali Bey's troops, took Salachia, and repulsed Abudahap's party, with the loss of some hundreds killed and wounded; it was in the second action when the Magrebis deserted to Abudahap, in which Ali Bey, Tantavi, and Slebi, with many of the cavalry of Ali Bey and Daher, were slain, according to the narration of

the book which contains the whole transaction; the author of which can inform Mr. Volney, and the public in general, of the truth of the adventures of Ali Bey, especially from the year 1771 to the 13th of April, O. S. 1773, and not only had the honour to serve him all that time, but also had the misfortune to ruin himself, and feels that ruin to this day; and if they wish to be more informed of the veracity of the author, and whether he has been in the actual service of the above prince; if the two Arabic letters which were sent to him while he was on leave at Rama by order of Ali Bey, to repair to the camp whenever his attendance was required, and were delivered to a certain Nobleman in the year 1776, who lived then at No. 10, Harley Street, Cavendish Square, and who was just returned to England from his travels; I say, if

if these letters are still in existence and not mislaid, the public might by them be convinced of the truth of it.

He says again, in order to defend his other fabulous stories, that amongst his other witnesses the Bishop of Aleppo, then Bishop of Acri or Ptolmaida, informed him of many circumstances, who was intimate with Ibrahim Sabbah, and not Sabar; it happens that the Bishop of Aleppo is Suffragan to the Patriarch of Antioch, (though this diocese a few years since, by the consent of that Prelate, was ceded to that of Constantinople.) And that of Acri is subject to the Patriarch of Jerusalem; whereas it is contrary to the canons of the Eastern Church for a Bishop who is Suffragan to another Patriarch to be Bishop of Acri. Perhaps this Bishop was an inaginary one, as most of his

witneffes are. He fays that Mr. Savary took the fame route, and that he was furprised to fee him fo strangely miffed concerning Ali Bey's circumftances. The truth is, that Mr. Savary (though he did not behave with generofity in not mentioning the author from whom he had his beft information) as he could find no better ground on which to build his hiftory, was modeft enough to pafs it in filence without fhewing incivility to the author, and did not wifh to impofe upon the public by meer reports as Volney does.

He fays again, that Abudahap gave Murat Bey, Ali Bey's wife, while Ali Bey was in Paleftine; which is like his other erroneous ftories, for Murat Bey did not marry her till a long time after Abudahap's death. He fays that Ibrahim and Murat Bey fucceeded Abudahap: the truth
is,

is, that Ismael Bey, who was sent by Ali Bey to oppose Abudahap, and was seduced by him, governed with him as a colleague; and after Abudahap's death, almost two years, to the best of the author's knowledge, and then was forced by Ibrahim Bey, and not by Murat Bey, to quit Egypt, and embarked with twenty of his domestics on board a French vessel for Tunis, and was intercepted by a Turkish man of war, which carried him to Constantinople, where by his money, and promises to discover Abudahap's treasure to the Captain Bashaw, he saved his life, and afterwards Murat Bey joining Ibrahim Bey, endeavoured to bribe the Porte to send him back; for he intended to revenge the treachery which he had committed to his master Ali Bey, and accordingly was sent in a French vessel, under the guard of a chaush, or officer; but as soon as

the vessel passed the island of Rhodes, he, with his domestics, sword in hand, forced the Captain to steer for Barca, in Barbary, and by this stratagem saved his life again.

This anecdote, as likewise Murat Bey's marriage with Ali Bey's wife, Mr. Volney may depend on; for the author being at Constantinople in the year 1786, learned it (not from merchants) but from a better authority, namely, from those who were agents to the Beys of Algiers and of Constantina. To one of them, whose name was Ibrahim Aga Aayackfis Owgloo, he had letters of recommendation from Hagi Aliaga Phogiali Sadè, resident at Smyrna, together with some remittances of money.

Mr. Volney speaks of Sheik Daher's family, and says that Ali was a parasite; which

which is erroneous, for Ali was the support of his father and the whole family. And if Mr. Volney is really a judicious traveller he can easily inform himself of the affairs of that unhappy old Prince from his two sons who are alive to this day, and the only persons who escaped death; one of them which is Otman, the real parasite not being concerned in defending his father's cause, was made Bashaw of two tails, to be sent to Napulous, but the Porte afterwards thinking better of it, he was sent to Prussia under the guard of the Bostangi Bashi, who is Governor there, with a pension of fifty ducats per day.

The other who is the youngest of all, and whose name is Saide, was carried, when a boy, to Constantinople, and is now one of the Grand Seignor's pages.

Mr. Volney says the author's book is small, with not above forty pages of Ali Bey's life and transactions. The rest being filled up with common occurrences, and was fabricated in England. Notwithstanding which, it is composed of solid and real materials of his own, and not borrowed as those of Mr. Volney's are. For if he had wished to have made a voluminous production, as that gentleman does with his volatile French spirit, to impose upon the public, he could easily have done it, as the printer offered to lend him the works of a French traveller, in two quarto volumes; but his conscience did not approve of making a property of other people's labour, he was therefore satisfied with his own; which, though small, fabricated in England, and the production of a Greek, is far superior to that of a Frenchman. As the English establish their
structures

structures upon solid and durable foundations, on the other hand the French erect theirs upon fraud and deceit.

Mr. Volney, to make his fables appear probable, mentions one Hafan, who was one of the creditors of Ali Bey, who instead of demanding his money, gave him five hundred ducats more.

And again he speaks of an hangiar, or dagger, of Ali Bey: which cost him two hundred and twenty-five thousand livres, about nine thousand eight hundred and forty three pounds, fifteen shillings, English. To which the Author answers thus; That the first is a report from his merchants resident in a certain city, from whom he has had most of his information; and the second is a child of his own brain. For the Author can assure him and the
Public,

Public, with an open countenance, that while the siege of Joppa lasted, he examined all Ali Bey's valuables, but saw no such thing among them: one of the most valuable of his hangiars or daggers, together with a girdle, were sent to the Author's tent by Ali Bey, in November 1772, as a pledge for a certain sum of money which the Author had supplied him with, to pay two months arrears to Sheik Daher, and some of his troops; but to his knowledge were not, both of them, worth above ten thousand pounds: which, three days after, were sent back to Ali Bey's treasurer; and that for two reasons, one for fear of an accident, the other to shew that he did not mistrust him.

'Tis true, Ali Bey had many valuable things, to the amount of two hundred thousand

thousand pounds, in different articles of jewels and pearls, but none of them exceeded five thousand pounds, except a saddle, with the rest of the furniture belonging to it, which might be worth about fourteen thousand pounds, and if the stones had been cut and polished, would have been more valuable, for the most of his jewellery was uncut and unpolished.

If the Author wished to boast of the confidence which Ali Bey reposed in him, he might declare, that when Ali Bey wanted money, and was advised by him to send part, if not the whole, of his treasure to the bank of Venice or Naples, and borrow some money upon it, he answered him in these words, “ I can trust you with all my treasure, but tell me how can I trust to the sea ? ”

As

As for Sheik Daher's intimacy and affability with the Author, perhaps to this day his gold watch, and his cane mounted in gold, with the Author's cypher on it may be found amongst his property, which on the day of Bayram, Ali Bey wishing to compliment the old Prince with some foreign present, they were offered to him, and sent by his treasurer, Rofvan Aga, in company with the Author, whose frequent visits to the old Prince during the siege of Joppa, were always honoured with coffee and pipe, which none of his sons or ministers were allowed in his presence.

As for Maalim Ibrahim Sabbah, with whom Mr. Volney says his imaginary Bishop was intimate, the Author can assure him with truth, that during his stay in Palestine there was no day past without visiting each other.

As

As far as here the Author takes the liberty to contradict with authority Mr. Volney's narration concerning Ali Bey, Sheik Daher, Abudahap, and the rest of the Beys transactions.

As for the rest of his empty, voluminous and imaginary travels, the Author thinks it below his attention, it being nothing but a collection compiled from the works of other authors, and from that little book which he despises. The Author wishes Mr. Volney to acquaint him in what part of the world was that famous convent of the Arabs, where he acquired the Arabic language in so short a time; perhaps in some parts of London, but most likely in his own apartments. Mr. Volney must know that the Author is moderately acquainted with the Arabic and Turkish languages, though by practice,

tice only; he can, however, distinguish the derivation of words. As Mr. Volney speaks of Sheik Daher's troops, and says they derive their name from the original country of Sheik Daher; it proves that Mr. Volney is ignorant of the derivation of the word Sefat, and with his leave the Author will instruct him. Safe has three significations, the first is war; the second, a sabre or sword; and as the other Arabs fight with misracks or lances, on horse-back, these of Sheik Daher's fight with fire arms and sabres, which they manage with the greatest dexterity; for this reason they are called Sefat or warriors in the plural number, by contraction, for the full expression is Sefatat, as the dual ends Sefaten, and Sefat in the singular: the third signification is summer.

Mr. Volney's talents in composing romances

mances certainly are very great. As for his observations on the weather, winds, climates, distinctions, appearance of Egypt, and its inhabitants, as he never was there, they are pardonable, as also those on Syria, and the history he gives of the nation called Druce, for which he has so much devotion: the truth is, that Mr. Volney has made his residence in a certain capital city for several years, and never went out of England. He only composes his laborious and voluminous works, and sends them to France for a better deception. This suffices for answer to his conjectures and contradictions, and if he is not satisfied, the Author will acquaint him that he is well known to him, but in the mean time begs pardon of him and the Public in general for being obliged to speak so much of himself, as it is not becoming a modest, genuine author; and
which

which he declined to do when the book was composed, for at that time he thought that every well-disposed reader would form an idea of the Author that he was not a spurious relator of the contents of that book, but a legitimate recorder of facts.

S. L. Κοσμοπολίτης

and

Anti-Volney.

LET-

L E T T E R S.

L E T T E R I.

Falmouth, 30th August, 1785.

DEAR SIR,

IMPRESSED with gratitude for the many favours which you have conferred on me, I cannot resist the inclination I feel of expressing it, by endeavouring to acquit myself of the promise I made when I had the honour of taking leave of you ; which was to give you an account of my voyages and travels : in the pursuit of which, I trust to your goodness to excuse the many inaccuracies which may escape me in the course of my correspondence.

VOL. I.

B

The

The 19th instant I left London, and till my arrival at Falmouth, on the 27th, nothing material happened which may merit your attention. At the entrance of the harbour of this place there was presented to our view the most delightful prospect ; and in all my travels, I never saw a place which bears so near a resemblance to Constantinople : the castle of St. Maws appears exactly like the Scutari or Chrisopolis ; the town of Flushing, as far as the East point, forms another Galata and Pera ; and the river from hence to Truro greatly resembles the Bosphorus : in a word, were the peninsula of the castle of St. Denis to be inhabited, and the neck of land to be joined to the town, it would be completely another Constantinople.

I think, that had this place the advantage of a sufficient depth of water, and a safe anchorage, it would be the first port for trade in the West of England. The town is situated on the declivity of a hill, and extends from North to South about

about three quarters of a mile. The streets are ill paved, and in some places very narrow. The buildings are of stone, the ancient ones are only two stories high, and but very indifferent; but those of modern date are of three stories, and much more elegant in appearance. There is a tolerable quay, though not sufficiently large for the accommodation of trade. Provisions are remarkably cheap, though travellers find the inns as dear as those near London.

The landscape of this country is beyond description charming. Nature seems to have been lavish in her beauties; and nothing but industry and encouragement are wanting to render this part of England a flourishing country. Fatigued with my voyage, I must beg leave to subscribe myself for the present,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful, and

Obedient, humble servant,

To Sir William Fordyce.

S. L.

LETTER II.

Falmouth, 4th Sept. 1785.

DEAR SIR,

IN the course of my narration, I shall occasionally trouble you with mentioning the manner in which we employ our leisure hours ; and as we are likely to be detained here some time, I shall begin with the present.—The 31st of last month our General proposed a fishing party, in which I was reluctantly engaged ; for my spirits, at that time, were very much depressed, not only by the thoughts of being separated from the worthy friends I had left, and being destined for a country where my life might be endangered, but also by my present situation ; for my expectations depended only on promises, which, if not performed, would render my return to England not only difficult, but impossible. My mind thus impressed with these unpleasant reflections, it is not to be wondered

dered at, if it wore the appearance of melancholy: but however, as the General's commands were not to be opposed, I, with the rest, embarked on this expedition in the ship's boat. We proceeded with a westerly breeze across the water to St. Maws, a small town containing about a hundred and fifty mean houses, chiefly inhabited by fishermen. The castle, which is situated on an eminence on the west point of the town, being obstructed by a hill at a small distance, is not well calculated for defence. The harbour is small, and defended by a high mole, or wall, to the south and south west,

As we did not meet with any sport in this place, the General, by the advice of the boatman, proposed going to Helford, which lies about eight miles distant to the south west: the wind being now contrary, we were all obliged to row; an exercise, which, from want of experience, did not fail to be very fatiguing: after

three hours hard labour we arrived at our destined port, about half past five in the afternoon. Our arrival was announced by the firing of five guns from the inn ; the master of which, by relieving our present necessities of hunger and thirst, proved himself the most acceptable friend we had met with that day. When we had sufficiently refreshed ourselves, we proceeded on our return.

The harbour of this place, though not broad, is very safe, and the anchorage good : both sides of it exhibit a very pleasant appearance, being hilly and planted with trees ; the adjacent lands are either cultivated, or formed into thick woods ; but our short continuance here would not permit us to take a more particular survey of the country.

In about the middle of this bay to the north lies a small village, in which are kept many boats for the accommodation of persons

persons desirous of passing from one side to the other.

So pleased was the General with the situation of this country, that he proposed visiting it again; and in consequence of that resolution, the landlord received orders to prepare a good dinner for us on the next Wednesday, if the weather should prove fine. About nine o'clock we returned to Falmouth, where we found the Captain, who, from not having been informed of our excursions, was full of apprehensions, lest we had met with some accident. We took up our abode at Williams' hotel, where, having sufficiently recovered ourselves from fatigue by a sound sleep, we rose the next morning to go on a party of shooting, in which we continued the greatest part of the day. In this excursion I met with an accident which so far lamed me as to render me incapable of walking about,

To give you an account of our farther

(8)

expedition, I must refer you to a future
letter. I remain,

Dear Sir,

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET

LETTER III.

Falmouth, Sept^r. 8, 1785.

DEAR SIR,

IN my last, dated the 4th, I mentioned to you the accident I met with, which occasioned my confinement for two days; at the expiration of which, having applied a plaster to the wound, and being let blood, I was able to walk abroad.

According to the appointment which had been made before, the General, the two passengers, and the captain, proposed to go on foot to Helford; but as I was not yet quite recovered of my wound, I made that an excuse for declining this engagement, and I was accordingly left behind. Much time had not elapsed before I had reason to congratulate myself on my good fortune in having refused to accompany them. The weather proved stormy, which deprived them of a great part of the pleasure with which they had flattered themselves in this

excur-

excursion. About nine o'clock at night they returned, though not in as comfortable a situation as when they set off—the night was dark, they missed their route, and their most direct way lay over a corn field, lately ploughed; which being moistened by the rain, rendered their journey still more uncomfortable. In the deplorable situation in which they were, some were glad to make their addresses to the kitchen maid for permission to dry their clothes before the fire, since they had not the good fortune to have others on shore to change; while the General immediately retired to his chamber. The comfortless state in which they were would have excited any one's pity; whereas, on me, it produced an effect quite different, and, smiling at my own good fortune, I endeavoured to inspire them with the same gaiety; but in what I failed, a good supper effected, which, together with a bowl of punch, and a friendly pipe, soon banished all the unpleasing ideas which their journey had occasioned. Having laughed

4

away

away all past trouble, they retired, and were glad the next day to remain at home without engaging in any farther adventures.

The day following proving fine, we proposed to dine at Penryn; some of us setting off before the rest, ordered dinner, which, having done, we walked out to observe the town.

Penryn is situated on a hill, about two miles north west of Falmouth; it contains about three hundred houses, most of which are meanly built. The market-place is small, and not well frequented above twice a week. Towards the east is a small river, over which is a wooden bridge; and about fifty yards distant, the church, an ancient piece of building. The church yard, which is most agreeably planted with trees, answers a two-fold purpose; a receptacle for the dead, as well as a most delightful promenade for the living. The pleasant view on the other
side

side does not at all yield to the beauty of the prospect on this, it being furrounded on all parts by gardens, which are well situated, and kept in good order.

Having compleated my perambulation, I returned to the inn, where I found the General and the other gentleman, who had taken different ways: as the others of our party did not arrive, we sat down to dinner without them; and on our return to Falmouth we found the Captain and the other passenger, who thought it most agreeable to the dictates of parsimony to remain at home. They alledged for an excuse, that having seen a ship leaving port, they concluded that the wind was favourable, and that having dined on board the ship, they were about to send a messenger to us at Penryn: on our arrival, however, the wind still proved contrary: the General's good nature inclined him to receive this excuse, which, though it answered the purposes of æconomy, was far from being conformable to the rules of veracity. As
I found

I found myself fatigued I left them, and, retiring to my chamber, I prepared to write you an account of these excursions.

As our sailing depends on the first favourable wind, I fear I shall not have an opportunity of writing to you again from this place; and so must take leave of you for the present till I re-commence my account of our voyage from hence to Smyrna. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your most humble,

And obedient servant,

S. L.

LET-

LETTER IV.

Smyrna, Decr. 2, 1785.

DEAR SIR WILLIAM,

HAVING set sail from Falmouth the 12th of September, we safely arrived at Smyrna, after a voyage of near three months. As your curiosity may be excited to know what sort of persons our passengers were, though I am no physiognomist, nor possessed of much penetration, yet to the utmost of my abilities I shall endeavour to acquit myself of that task.

The General is a man of about fifty years of age, whose military skill, and extensive knowledge in other affairs, recommended him to the great Mogul, by whom he was created General, and honoured with several other Eastern titles. After some years faithful service, he was sent by that prince, Ambassador to the Court of Great Britain on some important business ;

business; but during his residence there; being disappointed in his expectations by a certain Premier, who had promised to introduce him to a Great Personage, and after some years fruitless delay, not being able to execute his plan, he resolved to return to his master, and resign his commissions; purposing at the same time, as he said, to gather a few thousand pounds, to the amount of about thirty thousand, invest them in diamonds, and come back again to England. His character is amiable, and possessed of a goodness of heart, which makes him always anxious for an opportunity of being serviceable to society; so that whenever he makes a promise, if it be in his power, he will not be backward in the performance of it, though sometimes (as man is subject to disappointment) he fails in his intention: he is indefatigable in the pursuit of that which tends to his own improvement, as well as that of others; and so great an advocate is he for strict sobriety, that the strongest drink he ever makes use of is water. His company

is ever desirable, since, to the profoundest sense and erudition, he joins the most pleasing gaiety and mirth. This is the character to which I think the General's merit entitles him.

The other gentleman in our company is a young man of about twenty-four years of age, of a disposition truly amiable ; endowed with sensibility, honour, and generosity ; and had not the early part of his education been neglected, he might not only have been an useful, but an ornamental member to society : his merit had raised him to the rank of captain under the General.

As we three were of the same party, you may perhaps expect that I say something of myself, and declare in what capacity, and for what purpose, I undertook this voyage. Ungrateful as it may be to one possessed of a feeling mind, to mention that which tends to expose himself, yet, sensible that it would afford some satisfaction

tion to you, I cannot refuse undergoing that mortification to a bosom friend.

My circumstances, as it is well known to you, being not very easy while in England, I was desirous of an opportunity of endeavouring to regain some part of my property which I had left behind me. While my mind was occupied with these thoughts, I received a note from a friend, who informed me, that having been in company with the above-mentioned General, he expressed a want of a person conversant in the Asiatic languages, assuring, that to such an one, if he had no objection to travelling, he would render essential services, and lay the foundation of his future fortune. My name was mentioned, and an interview being appointed, I waited on the General at his lodgings. Previous to my visiting him, my friend advised me to make no pecuniary motives an objection, but rely entirely on the generosity of the worthy General, whose influence was sufficient to render it an object well worthy

my attention. Entertaining the most flattering views from these assurances, I was introduced to the General, who began immediately to discourse to me concerning the intended voyage, making me great promises of reward if I would accompany him. With a frankness of mind which too often lays us open to the arts of the designing, I unreservedly discovered to him the state of my affairs, placing an entire confidence in the apparent sincerity of his assurances : but observed to him, that I could not with prudence leave them in the distracted situation in which they then were, without using some endeavours to settle them in part before I quitted England. This occasioned him to discover some little uneasiness, and he appointed me to wait on him on a future day ; at which time, though with manifest disadvantage to myself, I agreed to depart as a companion to him on his travels. A circumstance happened about this time, which tended to render my departure from England the more desirous to myself. This

was the loss of a near friend, whose memory will ever be dear to me, and in whose grave seemed buried all my temporal felicity. My mind, now subject to a continual inquietude and agitation, became indifferent to every object in this country, and excited a wish to depart from it on almost any condition ; I therefore blindly accepted the General's offer, and pursued the whole of the voyage in the same melancholy situation, in which I described myself in my first letter from Falmouth. Let this account suffice for myself.

The other passenger was a person of a liberal education, a young man of about nineteen years of age, who, by the advice of his physicians, had undertaken a sea voyage for the recovery of an inveterate disorder, which had been deemed incurable, but I fear it was not attended with the wished-for effect : he was a youth of a most engaging address, and whose company, by his gaiety and good humour, was always desirable.

Our Captain, a young man of twenty two, though a novice in his profession, was very ambitious of passing for a skilful and experienced practitioner; but *ἐκ εκπαιγτός ζύλε ποιέσι Δίαν*. To the rest of his qualifications I am a stranger.

Lest I should continue this letter to an unpardonable length, I shall defer my account of our voyage till my next, and at present subscribe myself,

Dear Sir,

Your humble and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET-

LETTER V.

Smyrna, Decr. 4, 1785.

DEAR SIR WILLIAM,

IN the course of correspondence I shall not only give you an account of our transactions, but likewise of our progress in voyaging, from our departure from Falmouth, until our arrival at Smyrna. We left the former place September the 12th, at about nine in the morning, with a north-west wind; but no sooner had we quitted the harbour than we found it contrary; the Captain and mate, however, chose rather to continue at sea than return again to port, so that we remained tacking about in the Channel for a whole week; after which we lost sight of land.

On the 30th we were within forty-three leagues of the French coast, and October 6th in sight of Cape Finisterre. The 8th

we passed the Straits of Gibraltar, from whence we proceeded with a westerly breeze till the 23d, when we discovered the islands of Ivica and Fermentiera : these islands, both of which belong to Spain, are about twelve leagues and a half distant from the European coast ; the latter of them, which appears to be about seven miles in circumference, is not inhabited ; the distance of it is rather more than a league south of Ivica.

During the time that we were tacking about in this place, the fresh provisions with which our Captain had supplied us at Falmouth began to fail, and we had reason to lament the want of the geese, fowls, and ducks, which we had brought with us ; though our cook, who was a negro of Jamaica, had not at all times dressed them in the most elegant taste. The table cloth, which had a little changed colour for want of washing, had now no longer the delicate whiteness of poultry to contend with ; and our Captain prudently thought, that
the

the knives and forks which, through neglect in cleaning, had assumed quite another colour, were best adapted to the coarse salt provisions with which he could only now present us.

On the 2d of November we discovered the island of Sardinia, where the Captain, as he said, intended to take in fresh provisions and water ; but fortunately for him, a circumstance happened which rendered him very happy ; this was the changing of the wind to the east, which made our arrival there wholly impracticable ; so that we were still obliged to be contented with his salt provisions, or preserve our appetite for better food, when we should get it.

The 7th, at about five in the afternoon, we discovered the island of Sicily : the evening proving boisterous, our goat was washed over board ; a circumstance which saved the Captain some of his fine tea, as the company did not like to drink it without the milk with which that animal fur-

nished us. The next day we were in view of the islands of Gozo and Malta ; at the latter of which I endeavoured to persuade the Captain to procure us some fresh provisions : the proposal, however, did not meet with his approbation, fearing, as he said, that if he touched at any other place before Smyrna, he should lose the insurance of his ship ; so we were forced to continue our voyage as before.

On the 14th we came in sight of the islands of Cephalonia and Zant ; and on the 16th discovered the mountains of Arcadia. On the 20th, having come near the island of Cithera or Cerigo, we met with a Dutch ship, from which we procured some stock fish, a cask of small beer, and some tobacco, which proved very acceptable to us, since at that time we were at short allowance of three pints of water a day.

On the 24th we passed the islands of Caravi or the Ship, Phalconiera, Milo, Argen-

Argentiera or Antimilo. The 25th, at night, we were exposed to a very dangerous navigation among the islands of the Archipelago, it being very stormy weather. The next day we passed by the isles of Serphos, Thermia, Zia, and in the evening we saw Andros and Nigrapont, or Eubia or Euripos. The 26th we saw, at a distance to the south, the island of Skiros, and to the north that of Lemnos. About twelve at noon we passed near Psara, a place noted for pirates; to the south east of which lies the island of Cios; and on the east, the Cape of Caraburnia, or the ancient Claromene. On the 27th we came near the entrance of the Gulf of Smyrna. On the 28th, as the wind was easterly, which was against us, we were tacking about between the island of Lesbos or Mitelene, and Phocis. We arrived on the 29th near the Castle, which commands the entrance of the port, and cast anchor at the distance of about two miles west from that place; and about eleven o'clock
in

in the forenoon of the 30th we were safely moored in the port of Smyrna.

As soon as we were disembarked, we went to pay our first visit to Mr. Hayes, the Consul General, who received us with great politeness; and though it was attended with great inconveniences to his family, he lodged the General at his house, expressing at the same time much uneasiness that he could not accommodate us all. The rest of us took up our abode at an inn, at the rate of five shillings per day, each, for board and lodging. 'Tis from this place I write you this long epistle; but a violent cough with which I am seized, admonishes me to conclude, by subscribing myself,

Dear Sir,

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET

LETTER VI.

Smyrna, Decr. 6, 1785.

DEAR SIR WILLIAM,

TO give a perfect description of the present state of this city, would require the assistance of travellers who have made more judicious remarks than myself; but yet, as I know you would not wish me to pass it over in silence, I shall in a concise narration endeavour to give you some account of it.

Since the dreadful fire which happened some time since, Smyrna has been in the most deplorable situation. The greatest part of the houses in the Christian town were burnt to the ground, only a part of which, owing to the poverty of their former possessors, have been built; the rest, still in ruins, exhibit a dismal
view

view to beholders. What a difference between the present situation, and that when I visited it before in the year 1763! At that time we beheld with pleasure the houses elegantly contrasted, to many of which, on the shore, were beautiful balconies; and though they are now rebuilt, yet they are greatly deficient in point of magnificence.

This city is divided into two parts, the southern and northern; the latter of these is inhabited by Christians, both natives and foreigners: those of the persuasion of the eastern church, commonly called Greeks, have an archbishop, two churches, St. Photinis and St. George, and a free Grammar school for the ancient Greek literature. There is likewise an hospital for sick and infirm persons; both of these are supported by voluntary contributions. The Protestants and Papists have each of them, chapels and hospitals peculiar to themselves. The southern part is the residence of the Turks and Jews. Between
this

this division, is the besestain, or merchant's market, with hans or inns, all built of stone, for the reception of foreigners.

The town in extent from north to south on the sea shore is about three miles; it stands on the declivity of a hill, on the top of which is to be seen the old castle, whose walls are partly in ruins: near the custom house, on the sea shore, is another castle, which is likewise in great decay. The breadth of this city is about half a mile, though in some places it is rather wider. The streets, in the Christian part of the town, are very narrow, and but indifferently paved; but in the Turkish they are much wider, and better in appearance: the houses, which are built of brick and timber, are mostly about two stories high, very few of three; the best of which are inhabited by the European merchants.

Though provisions are not at present at so low a rate as they were formerly, yet they are still very reasonable, and in great
abun-

abundance. Commerce is carried on with great alacrity and spirit, which is extended now to the Russians, as well as the other European nations. The factory consists of a Consul General, a Chaplain, a Chancellor, and five or six merchant houses. It would be needless for me to give you an account of the articles of import and export between this country and England, since every one who has any knowledge of the Turkish affairs is well informed of them. I proceed now to give you an account of our party.

The absence of the General, who, as I said before, had taken up his lodging at the Consul's house, was a circumstance not at all pleasing to the young Captain and the rest of the company, who could not but consider themselves very much slighted; they were not however wanting in discovering the means of making up that deficiency, by joining in all the amusements which the place afforded them: nor were they destitute entirely of society; for several

veral masters of ships, who were at that time loading for England, well pleased at an opportunity of discoursing with those who had lately left that country, often invited us on board their ships; which invitation becoming mutual, we formed a very agreeable, though but temporary connection. The General too sometimes visited us, and expressed some concern at our separation. For my part, I did not join in their society, for I laboured under an indispotion which rendered me entirely indifferent to any amusement; and as the rest of my fellow voyagers spoke no language but English, I remained at home, in order to interpret their commands to the landlord.

Yesterday, having met with the master of a Turkish vessel going to Constantinople, we made an agreement with him for the passage of the General, the young Captain, and myself, together with the General's servant, for one hundred and eight Turkish dollars; that is, about ten pounds

pounds sixteen shillings of English money. As I was not willing to give the General the trouble of making the necessary preparations, I took on myself that charge; and having made the proper provisions for the voyage, we got ready for sea.

As we expect to sail from here on the 12th, I shall not be able to write to you another letter from this place; but if we touch at any other port in our way, I shall not fail to embrace the opportunity of informing you of our future adventures. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,
S. L.

LET-

LETTER VII.

Tenedos, Jan^y. 3, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

THOUGH our departure from Smyrna had been fixed for the 12th, we did not set sail till the 13th, when, being favoured with an easterly wind, we arrived the next day, about five o'clock in the afternoon, at Phocis.

This place, which first gave inhabitants to the city of Marseilles, stands in a peninsula, and is about a mile and half in circumference. It has two harbours, one on the east north east, the other on the west; the latter of these affords a good anchorage for ships of all rates, the water being of a sufficient depth; and on the south and west it is surrounded with hills, except at its entrance, which lies north west. On the north is an island, by which it is

VOL. I.

D

defended

defended from the ill effects of tempestuous weather. The other harbour not having much water, and lying open to the north, is not so safe. The distance from the one to the other is about three hundred yards, which space is formed into gardens, well cultivated, and planted with fruit trees.

The town is surrounded with a stone wall of about ten feet thick, but which, through want of repair, would not prove of sufficient strength to oppose an enemy. On the ramparts, to the west and north-west parts of the town, are some pieces of cannon, but all unmounted and unfit for service, except a small battery of six guns, four-and-twenty pounders each, which lie close to the water, and command the entrance of the western harbour. The town has three gates, one to the east, the other to the south, and the third to the south west; at the entrance of the southern is a pedestal, on which is an inscription in Greek; but the characters are so effaced by age, that they are now quite unintelligible.

ble. The country round about is mountainous, except a valley of about six or eight miles in extent, beginning at the neck of the peninsula, which is in all parts well cultivated, and planted with vineyards, olive and other fruit trees. In this valley is a large reservoir, from whence the whole city, by means of an aqueduct supported by arches, is supplied with water, conveyed about the distance of a quarter of a mile into the town.

The inhabitants consist of Turks and Greeks ; of the former of whom there are about eight hundred, and seven hundred of the latter, who have likewise a church*.

* The Greeks of this town, by an early submission to the Sultan Bajazet, obtained from him certain privileges : namely, an immunity from all tributes and taxes ; together with being made of equal rank with his Janisaries in the defence of their town. Having, however, a few years since, some dispute concerning them with the Porte, they sent them by their Governor to the Grand Seigneur, by which means they lost them entirely ; but they still live in the enjoyment of them.

This town is under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Smyrna, who has a house and garden pleasantly situated on the eastern plains.

The delightful situation of this place invited the General to form a party for shooting every day; but being at length grown weary of this amusement, he became very anxious for his departure from this place, though by contrary winds we were detained twelve days. His impatience increasing by delay, he did not fail to censure me as not sufficiently explaining his commands to the reiz or master of the vessel. His conduct to me at that time, together with some other private reasons which I had, inclined me to inform him that I should proceed with him no farther than Constantinople.

At length, at about four o'clock in the morning of the 26th, we set sail, and about five in the afternoon we anchored near the point of New Phocis, which is
 2 about

about six leagues distant. Formerly there were but two Phocis; the first, that in which we were, called Old Phocis; and another about fourteen miles distant to the north: but the Turks, in their last war with the Russians, built a third, about three miles to the south of the former, which they called New Phocis. The castle of this last place is but indifferently built, and badly calculated for defence by land; though by sea, in time of war, it may do great damage to the shipping, it having a battery of large cannon close to the water, and directly opposite to the entrance of the Gulph of Smyrna.

The next day, at about three in the morning, we again set sail, and in the evening, about six, we arrived at a port in the coast of Lydia, which has two entrances, one to the north, and the other to the south. This coast presented to us the most pleasing appearance; on the east is the continent, and on the west an island; the country round about on the continent

is mountainous, planted on all sides with trees of various kinds ; the declivity affords good pasturage for cattle ; and the plains are likewise well cultivated. About the distance of a mile from the harbour there are a few houses with gardens, chiefly inhabited by Greeks ; and about four miles farther in the country is a small village, inhabited by Turks, to which the General, myself, with three Turkish passengers, repaired in order to buy some provisions. The opposite island has good pasturage, contains many trees and thickets, which afford shelter for wild fowl, of which there are great quantities.

At about six in the morning of the 29th we set sail for Metelene, where we arrived with an easterly wind at about six in the evening of the same day. This town is very extensive ; the houses are built in the same stile as those of Smyrna ; the streets are moderately large, the causeways of which are elevated about half a foot higher than the middle. The inhabitants consist
of

of Turks and Greeks, though the latter are most numerous. The ladies of this town are of a very agreeable appearance, fair complexion, and in general very graceful.

There are two harbours, distinguished by the denominations of old and new, the former to the south east, has a dock yard, in which I saw two men of war on the stocks, one of sixty four, and the other of forty-four guns ; in this port likewise are the custom house and castle. The other lies to the north, and is chiefly calculated for small vessels.

When I had seen the cathedral, I went to pay my respects to the Archbishop, whose palace stands in the same spot as that of the ancient princes of Lesbos ; part of the walls of which are to be seen to this day about eight feet thick. In digging for a foundation for this palace, there was found in the ruins a marble throne, on the front of which, under the

seat, is this inscription in Greek capitals, ΑΓΑΘΩΝΟΣ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ ΛΕΣΒΙΩΝ, which signifies in English, Agathon, Chief of the Lesbians. In the gardens there are several marble pillars, which support a pergulo or balcony. The palace is very commodious, of two stories high, containing eight rooms in each story, besides other offices.

The Archbishop is a man of about forty-six years of age, of an agreeable, affable temper; and the Archdeacon a man of good understanding, to which he adds likewise a profound knowledge of literature. The church, which is in the inside of the walls, is built in modern stile, and is in length about sixty feet, and breadth forty. Besides this, there are in the town three other churches.

When we had sufficiently viewed this place we took our leave, as the time grew late, and went into the bazar, or market, to buy some provisions, which in this country

country are very reasonable ; and at ten o'clock we re-embarked. At about four o'clock in the morning of the 30th we set sail with a south-easterly wind ; but at noon, the reiz finding the weather unfavourable for the pursuit of our voyage, stopped at the neighbouring isles called Mosconisia.

These islands are three in number, though only one of them is inhabited, and that by Greeks only ; it is in circumference about twenty miles, and contains one town, in which are about two thousand houses. The other islands, which are to the west of this, though they are uninhabited, are kept in a state of cultivation by the inhabitants of the former. Between these two isles is a fine harbour, which, on the southern part, affords good anchorage for ships of the heaviest burden. In this place we saw a large Venetian man of war, which, in coming from Venice to Constantinople with the new Baello, or Ambassador, had lost her main mast, and
was

was obliged to winter here in order to get repaired.

We spent part of the day in walking on one of these uninhabited islands; but about three o'clock a heavy shower of rain, which continued all the afternoon, obliged us to repair to our vessel.

At about seven o'clock in the morning of the 31st we set sail from here, and about eight in the evening arrived at a harbour called Petra, on the northern coast of Metelene. This harbour is sufficiently commodious for ships of all rates; the anchorage is good, and defended from every inconvenience arising from boisterous winds.

On the first of January, 1786, I went to view the town of Petra, which is about a mile distant from the place where we anchored. The country round about is very mountainous, but well cultivated and planted with various kinds of fruit trees; the

the villages, which are dispersed in different parts, form a most delightful prospect. Petra contains a hundred and fifty houses, inhabited by Greeks, and about twenty by Turks. In the middle of this town is a large rock of about six hundred yards in circumference, and a hundred and fifty in height: at the top of it is a church, and a nunnery of six cells, which at present is only occupied by two widows, the one of about fifty-six, the other fifty years of age. Adjacent to the church and nunnery is a garden which produces vegetables, and in which are planted two olive trees: it is not easy to conceive how the constructor of this place could have transported a sufficient quantity of earth to have formed this garden: the ascent is by steps, cut in the rock, of about a foot distant from each other. The view from the top of this church is delightful, and commands an extensive prospect over the neighbouring country.

On the 21st I went to see the town of
Molib-

Molibdos, which is about five miles east distant from Petra. As the high road to this place was rugged, I took my way by the sea shore, on which I saw pebbles of various colours ; but as the day was on the decline, I could not stay to collect any of these natural curiosities, I only picked up one stone of a red colour about the size of an hen's egg, and which had every appearance of a cornelian. At about five o'clock in the afternoon I arrived at Molibdos.

This town is situated on a hill, on which is a castle ; the whole of which is surrounded by a stone wall, in circumference about two miles : the inhabitants are about three thousand in number, Greeks and Turks ; the former of whom have churches, and the latter a mosque. In the environs of the town are very fine gardens and vineyards, together with large pine trees in various places : the hills abound with flocks of sheep, goats, and oxen. This place has only a small harbour

bour fit for country vessels. The Governor of the town extends his jurisdiction as far as Petra, and they are both in the diocese of the Bishop of Rethemos.

From the description which I made of this place, the General expressed a desire of seeing it; and as the wind was contrary, we both visited it, and repaired thence to Petra, where we remained three days: as we took the high road in our journey, we saw the aqueduct, by which the water is conveyed into the town, about the distance of a mile and an half.

We set sail from thence about four o'clock in the morning of the 5th, leaving behind us one Russian and two French merchant ships: these last, which had set off from Alexandria with Turkish goods for Constantinople, had arrived there two days before we came away; the former, bound for the Black Sea, had anchored there the day before, being all of them obliged to take shelter on account of the
tempest-

tempestuous weather : about noon we arrived at Tenedos ; and at two o'clock, having landed and taken some refreshment, we walked out to view the town.

The houses, which are four hundred in number, are built in the same manner as in the other Greek towns ; three hundred of which belong to the Greeks, who have two churches : exclusive of houses there are shops, (for it is the custom in Turkey to have the shops remote from the places of abode.) The harbour is tolerably good, and surrounded with a mole, though it is not deep enough for ships larger than a hundred tons burden : as it is the receptacle for all country trading vessels, it is at all times filled. The castle is close to the water, and very strong built, and towards the land is covered by the hills which are to the west part of the town : the whole garrison, at present, consists of a Sub-Governor and about fifty Janisaries. The town stands at the bottom of these hills, at the distance of about fifty yards from the

the harbour and castle. Directly opposite this place is Troy, from whence the Tenedians transported some tombs which serve as cisterns : two of these I saw in the market place, which were eight feet in length, in breadth four, and about six deep ; in one of them is a Greek inscription, which implies, that the inhabitants of Sphikia had granted it to Claudodia to bury her friends, the names of whom I could not make out.

The circumference of the island of Tenedos is about twenty-six miles ; its chief produce is wine, of which there are three sorts, Muscadine, a sweet white wine ; a sweet red wine, and a common red, of which there is made a great quantity, which is sent abroad. I have bought the best Muscadine at three pence a quart, the sweet red at two-pence halfpenny, and the other is sold commonly at about three halfpence, English money : besides the wine, this island produces some corn and cotton. Almost an entire view of this place may be
taken

taken from the top of the hill, which is near the town.

Having thus finished my short narration of our voyage from Smyrna here, where we remain in expectation of a favourable wind to pass the Dardanelles, permit me now, wishing you all the happiness that a new year can produce, to conclude, and subscribe myself for the present,

Your humble and
Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET -

LETTER VIII.

Constantinople, Jan'y. 13, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

OUR continuance at Tenedos was of no long duration, for a southerly wind blowing, we set sail from that place on the 5th at about four o'clock in the morning, and at six we entered the Straits of Dardanelles. The day being clear, and the wind moderate, we had on all sides a charming prospect, but especially towards the Asiatic castle, where we had a perfect view of the river Xanthus, or Scamandrus, which disembogues itself to the north east of the castle, in three mouths. The sight of this river brought to my recollection the many heroes that Homer in his Iliad represents as perishing on its banks. We saw also the new fortifications on the European side, which were erected last war; but in my opinion, Baron de Tott, who boasts

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him-

himself of being the author of them, did not prove himself the most excellent engineer, for on the land side they are entirely destitute of defence. We sailed all day, and passing by the inner castles, which are about sixteen miles north east distant from the first, we met, between Abithos and Sistos, with two Turkish men of war. From this place the Hellespont begins.

When we approached Lampfacus night came on, so that we could no longer indulge our eyes with the agreeable sight of Europe on one side, and Asia on the other. About eleven at night, a south-easterly wind blowing hard, we took shelter in Chardak, the port of which affords but indifferent anchorage, and is greatly inferior to that near the castle of Sistos. The town contains about two hundred houses, mostly inhabited by Turks, except a few shops which belong to the Greeks.

In this town there is a han, or stable, the roof of which is supported by sixteen
marble

marble pillars, twenty feet in length, and nine in circumference each : these pillars were dug from the ruins of Troy, which the Turks call Eskee Stambol. The country round about is very pleasant and fertile. Lampfacus lies about four miles west of this town, both of which places produce the best melons in this part of the world ; the grapes are likewise not less delicious. The town of Chardak is governed by a boftangee, or life-guard man, of the Grand Seignior ; but the Cadee of Lampfacus acts as Judge in all cases of judicature.

We staid at this place two days, and about five in the morning of the 8th we set sail ; but at one the next morning we were obliged to enter another port called Cutali, a small island to the south west of Marmara or Priconisos, which is inhabited by Greeks ; at about seven o'clock we landed, for the weather was so severe that we could not continue our voyage. On the 10th the snow was five feet high,

which was succeeded by a very hard frost. Two Russian ships at this time lost their masts.

The whole circuit of this island is about eight miles, part of which is cultivated, and contains some vineyards and pasturages, in which are some flocks of sheep and goats : in the town there are about a hundred and fifty houses, with a church. In this place we were confined for three days.

At about six o'clock in the morning of the 12th we left this island, and at five in the afternoon arrived at Pasha Liman, or the Duke's Harbour, in an island on the coast of Nicomedia. This place is likewise inhabited by Greeks, and contains about two hundred houses, mostly inhabited by fishermen and sailors : there is likewise a parish church ; and about a mile west of the town stands the Bishop's palace. At three o'clock in the morning of the 13th we set sail with a fine southerly

therly wind, which brought us safely about four the next morning to the harbour of Constantinople ; and at twelve we landed at Calata, in order to go to Pera.

The General having letters of recommendation to an English merchant, our first visit was to him ; after which we went to pay our respects, as British subjects, to our Ambassador here, who received us with great affability and politeness. The General, who had likewise a letter of recommendation from the Ambassador's brother presented it to his Excellency, and at the same time I delivered mine also, which you had the kindness to procure me from the same. It was impossible for his Excellency to accommodate us with apartments at his own palace, as they were all occupied by Sir Richard Worsley ; he however gave us a general invitation ; after which we returned to Mr. Abbott, the merchant before mentioned, who made accommodations for us till we could get suitable lodgings.

ings. For the present permit me to conclude, assuring you, that I shall let no opportunity escape of informing you of my future transactions. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET-

LETTER IX.

Pera, Constantinople, Feby. 7, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

IN my last I forgot to mention that his Excellence has delivered to me the two letters which you had the kindness to send to me: for which favour, permit me now to return you my thanks, conformably to my promise. I proceed now to inform you of my present situation.

The General having hired a house at the rate of 3l. per month, and being provided with some necessary furniture by his Excellence and Mr. Abbott, we proceed to establish our mode of housekeeping, which is conducted on a plan of the greatest frugality, and œconomy: our domestics, which consist of two men servants, perform all the household work of cleaning, waiting,

and cooking ; though for this last they are not much employed, owing to the hospitality and kindness of his Excellence, and the English merchants, who do honour to their nation, and whose great respect to us incline them to make us many invitations ; so that we had but little occasion of dining at home. Cockades and uniforms have here so great an influence, that they are the chief means of the introduction to some of the gentlemen who wear them to the foreign ministers who reside here. For my part, as I am not honoured with so superb an appearance of dress, I thought it most prudent to be less frequent at the table of my superiors, mindful of the admonition τὸ, γινῶθι σαυτόν ; and this for two reasons : the one, that which I have just related ; the other, that my appearance might not be according to the Italian proverb, *Molto fumo e poco resto*. I shall now proceed to give you an account of Pera, and the amusements it affords,

Pera, situated on a hill, is divided from
Calata,

Calata, or ancient Sykefs, by a gate; it extends from the south west to east north east, as far as Stavrodromi, so called by the Greeks, which signifies in English, Cross Street, about the length of a mile, and from here to the burying place of the Greeks, about another mile. This street divides the town into west and east; in the former are the palaces of the Russian and Swedish Ambassadors; and in the latter, on the right hand, those of the Neapolitan, Venetian, Spanish, French, Dutch, and Imperial Ambassadors, together with the Grand Seignior's palace: on the left hand are the palaces of the British and Prussian Ambassadors. The houses of Pera are built of timber and brick, and about eight hundred in number, mostly of two stories high, the rents of which are in several places extravagantly high. The inhabitants, exclusive of the Europeans, are chiefly Armenians, Greeks, and Turks.

The amusements of this place are various, and consist of comedies and operas,
not

not performed by a troop of actors, but by private ladies, and gentlemen, for their own recreation. In the houses of the foreign ministers are often given dinners, suppers, balls, card assemblies, concerts, and masquerades: nor are the laws of gallantry and intrigue entirely neglected; but here, as well as in other fashionable places, there are ladies whose virtue will not always resist the powerful attractions of gold.

Having thus given you an idea of Pera and its charming productions, I shall now take my leave, till a future letter informs you of our farther excursions. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET-

LETTER X.

Pera, Constantinople, March 6, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

OUR first excursion was forming a party to go to Scutari, or Chrisopolis, to see the dervices, or Turkish monks, perform the enthusiastic duties of their religion. Our party consisted of Sir Richard W. the General, the Captain, a Dragoon, or interpreter, two English gentlemen, and a Janisary. We went first to Tophana, or the cannon foundry, where we took a boat in order to cross the water, which is about eight miles over. We landed at Scutari at about half past eleven in the forenoon; and as it was too early for the beginning of their religious ceremony, we took horses to go to Burgurllow, a village at about six miles distant to the north. Close to this village is a very high hill, from the top of which, on all sides, travel-

travellers are presented with the most delightful prospect ; on the west is a view of almost all Constantinople and Propontis ; on the north west, Calata and the harbour, with Pera and Tophana ; on the north, the canal of Bosphorus, with all the villages which are situated on its banks ; on the south and south west, Scutari, Chalcedon, the Princess Islands, the Gulf of Cizico, and Mount Olympus ; on the east, mountains, hills, and forests, as far as the eye can reach : on the top of this hill are several trees, whose extensive branches afford a pleasant shade from the heat of the sun.

When we had sufficiently gratified our sight with these charming prospects, we returned with our horses to Scutari to see the services, but on our arrival there, we found that we could not be admitted ; we therefore took a walk to view the old palace and gardens of the Grand Seignior, which are situated close to the sea : the spot is delightful, but from neglect is almost

most entirely in ruins : the eastern part, which was the women's apartment, was consumed by the fire which happened some time since ; the southern part is still to be seen, though it is not in a state fit for being inhabited. It is evident that this was formerly a very magnificent palace, from the elegant appearance of the rooms, which are painted, gilded, and in some are marble basons after the Asiatic stile. The ground on which this palace, with the gardens, stand, is above two miles in circumference, and contains many large trees, whose shades are very agreeable in hot weather. This place is guarded by some of the bostangees, who are very civil to strangers, and for a little money will show any part of the palace, except that which is appropriated to their master's use.

When we had sufficiently viewed this palace, we took a boat to go to Cadee Kuyou, or Chalcidon, which is about two miles distant to the south of this place : but before I speak of Chalcidon, I will make

make a short description of Scutari. This town stands opposite to Constantinople, extending from north to south about a mile and half, and from east to west little more than a mile ; it contains, exclusive of shops, about two thousand houses, mostly of two stories high, and built in the same stile as those of Constantinople and Pera : there is nothing remarkable in these buildings, if we except the jami or mosque of the Sultan Mustapha, which makes an elegant appearance. Near the shore, and close to the edge of the water, is a summer house belonging to the Grand Seignior ; and about three hundred yards distant from this, to the north, is the custom house, near to which is a very fine fountain, and another mosque called Validò Jamisi. These, together with the burying ground of the Turks, which is planted with a large grove of cyprus trees, are the chief buildings of this town. The country round about is very pleasant, and divided into vineyards, in which are different kinds of fruit trees ; gardens and mea-

meadows, which in spring wear a delightful aspect. The streets of this town do not merit a particular description, so that I proceed rather to give you an account of our journey to Chalcedon.

Having arrived at this place and alighted at a tavern, while they were preparing dinner, we went to view the town and church of St. Ephimia the martyr, in which the fourth General Council was held. Chalcedon is nothing now when compared with its ancient splendor; the hill on which the former town and citadel stood, is now laid into gardens and fields, which belong to some Turkish houses; in these there are yet some visible traces of the ancient walls of the citadel. The present town contains about six hundred houses, four hundred of which belong to the Greeks and Arminians; the rest to the Turks. The situation is very pleasant, surrounded by a country which is fertile and well cultivated.

On

On the east part of the ancient Chalcedon is a river navigable only for boats and lighters, which come from the sea, and are loaded with bricks, of which great quantities are made on its banks. Having staid in this town till about six o'clock in the afternoon, we returned to Tophana, and thence to our lodgings.

Some days after, the General proposed going to a hamam, or hot bath; accordingly an English gentleman sent his servant, to desire the keepers of the bath to prepare it for us in the evening, where, about seven o'clock, we went: we were six in our party. At the entrance of this bath is a square room, round about which are fixed sophas of about six feet long, and as many broad, and about four in height: on each of these sophas are two minderes, a kind of mattrass, for persons to sit on: in the middle of the room is a large round basin of water: from the ceiling are suspended, by cords, some poles, on which are placed phutas, or towels, for the use of those

those who frequent the bath. On the above-mentioned sophas the company usually undress, and placing the phutas round their waist and shoulders, walk into the hot rooms, which are paved with marble; in the middle of these is an elevation from the pavement, of about a foot and a half, in form of an octagon; upon this, two or three persons lay themselves flat till they begin to perspire, when the attendants rub their body with their hands; then by placing their hands across their breasts, and kneeling on their backs, they force all their joints to crack: this operation being done, they are taken to a basin, above which are two cocks, one emitting cold water, the other hot; near this they are placed, when the attendants, with their hands covered with a camlet bag, begin again to rub their body; then taking water with a brass bowl, they pour it over them, and wash them with a lather of soap and water, together with the fibres of a palm tree, and then again pour water over them. This operation done, they are left while the at-

tendants fetch clean towels, and a kind of wooden pattens. The patients putting on these, are conducted again into the first room, where the minderes or matrasles, with sheets, are prepared for them, in which, lying down, they are covered with as many clothes as they please : after a little repose, coffee is presented, or what other kind of refreshment they please, except wine. This operation, though very agreeable to those who are accustomed to it, has something very singular to those who never underwent it before. Having staid at this place till ten o'clock at night, we departed to our own abode.

A few days after, I was engaged in another party to cross the water, and go to Constantinople to see the mint and other places : that which, by its curiosity, most attracted our attention, was a subterraneous building to the west of the hippodomium, called by the Europeans the cistern, and usually thought to have been a reservoir of water; though it appears to me probable that it has been a magazine for corn :

at present it is occupied by silkweavers, who twist their silk there. The entrance to this is on the south side, the top of which is entirely covered with ruins. At the entrance of the door on the left hand is a stone staircase of about sixteen steps, by which we descend to this place. The pillars on which this is supported are so much buried in the ground, that the exact length cannot be ascertained, though from the nearest conjecture they appear to be about twenty-two feet in height, and five in thickness : they are eighty four in number. On the north part of this pile is a spring of water ; in the summer, always cool and fresh. The whole length of this place is about sixty yards, and forty in breadth.

For a description of the other curiosities of Constantinople, I must refer you to other more skilful historiographers. In my next I shall give you an account of the new Vizier, who is expected from Morea, and of our Ambassador's first visit to him, as I

intend to have the honour of accompanying him, together with the rest of the British subjects who are here. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET.

LETTER XI.

Pera, Constantinople, April. 28, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

THE new Vizier arrived last month ; but as our Ambassador's visit was not fixed till this month, I deferred writing till I could give you an account, not only of our visit, but of the Captain Bafhaw's pomp, when he took his leave of the Grand Seignior at his departure, together with that of his fleet from the capital. Whenever a new Vizier arrives at that dignity, it is customary for all the foreign Ministers to visit him according to their rank ; and as the Court of France made a treaty of commerce with the Porte before that of England and Venice, the French Ambassador pays the first visit, the Venetian the second, and the English the third, and so on with the rest, according to the time in

which they made their treaty. The day appointed for our Ambassador was the sixth of this month, when all the British subjects meeting at his Excellency's palace, were treated with chocolate; and about ten o'clock in the forenoon the procession began in the following manner. The Ambassador entered his sedan, carried by four Walachian chairmen, preceded by the Janisaries, who march two by two in their uniform, with staves in their hands; then his Excellency's domestics in their proper liveries, and next to them some of the Dragomen: after the Ambassador, the company followed on foot; and with this procession they proceeded as far as the water side, which is about the distance of a mile. The place where he embarked on the state boat is called Mayttscalesi: the seats of the boats are all covered with crimson velvet, fringed with gold lace; the Ambassador always takes with him whom he pleases in his boat, which was rowed by six Turks with two oars each, and the rest of the company follow in other boats appropriated

ated for that purpose. In this parade he landed at Bahçekapisi, or the garden gate at Constantinople ; as soon as he was disembarked he mounted a horse, richly caparisoned in an European saddle, and with the same procession as before went to the Bashawkapisi, or the Chief's port or gate. Having alighted, he went up to the Divan Odassi, or Council Chamber, followed by the company ; afterwards into another room, where he was received by the great Interpreter of the Porte, who is a Greek. A little conversation passed in Italian ; and about five minutes after, an order came to ascend the audience chamber, up two pair of stairs, whither we followed him : he was received by the Vizier Kiagasi, or the Vizier's Lieutenant, and the Reife Effendi, or Secretary of State for foreign affairs, and other ministers. A stool covered with scarlet was prepared for his Excellency ; upon which, being seated, about two minutes after, the Vizier came in ; his entrance being announced by a cry of houe, or huzza, three times by his attendants.

The Ambaffador flood up, and the Vizier paffing him, went and feated himfelf on his fopha. His Excellency then began to congratulate him on his acceffion to that dignity, and reminded him on the part of the King, as his representative, of the treaty of commerce and friendfhip eftablifhed between the two Courts, defiring that it might be uninterrupted, and kept in force according to the Aftinamefs or Imperial grants. The Great Interpreter explained the Ambaffador's difcourfe to the Vizier, who, in his turn, thanked him for his congratulatory addrefs, and then confirmed his Excellency's demands ; the interpreter having again explained the Vizier's anfwer, coffee was introduced for him and the Ambaffador only. After this, one of the Vizier's pages prefented to him fome incenfe and rofe water, fpreading a fine filk or gauze handkerchief on his knees, with which he wiped his face : after this, another page performed the fame ceremony to the Ambaffador, putting one of thefe handkerchiefs in his bofom ;

bosom ; and another gave some of them to the Ambassador's dragoman to distribute to his Excellency's company. The ceremony being thus over, we departed with the same procession as we went. His Excellency afterwards thanked the company for their attendance, and invited them to dine with him.

The Vizier is a man of about sixty-three years of age, about five feet ten inches high, rather inclining to corpulence ; he is a Georgian by birth, and a great favourite of the Captain Bashaw, by whose means he was elevated to the present dignity. The dress of his Excellency was a light blue tissue, with silver flowers richly embroidered : that of the Vizier was a pelice of sable ; he wore a long beard, and moderate whiskers.

Having finished the description of this ceremony, I shall endeavour to entertain you with that performed at the creation of the Prince of Walachia. The person who
at

at present bears that title, was formerly an interpreter to the Captain Bashaw, by name Mavroyeni, a Parian by birth. His elevation to that dignity was a thing not common, and met with a violent opposition from a Greek called Petraki; but as Mavroyeni was supported by the Captain Bashaw, by whom he obtained that principality, Petraki but little availed, and at last lost his property and his life.

The ceremony used in this high office is thus conducted. The day being appointed for his appearance, he goes, accompanied by his friends, to the Grand Seignior, to whom, being seated on his Throne, he is introduced by the Cavas Bashee, or High Constable*. After having prostrated himself three times, he approaches the Throne, and, kneeling down,

* The Cavas Bashee is a kind of High Constable and Superintendant of the Grand Seignior's kitchen; and whenever the Grand Seignior is pleased to depose a Prince, or to put him to death, the above-mentioned officer is sent to execute his order.

kisses

kisses the sleeve of the Grand Seignior's robe ; having performed these humiliations, he takes an oath of allegiance, promises fidelity, and to oppose with his armies all enemies of the sublime Porte : after this the Vizier, or Kislar Agasee, vests him with a magnificent pelice, and the Grand Seignior takes the cap of the Cavas Bashee, and puts it on the head of the Prince, saying, From this day thou art, by my command, appointed Prince of my dominions of Walachia, during my pleasure ; at the same time gives orders to two of his Beyks * to accompany him ; then the Prince prostrating himself again three times, retires ; on his going out, there is delivered to him a long pole, to which is tied a horse's tail, which is carried before the Prince by his Treasurer ; he then goes to the footstep where the Grand Seig-

* The Beyks are twelve in number, are dressed always in tiffue, with golden girdles round their waists, and golden caps on their heads ; they always walk before the Grand Seignior's horse whenever he goes in state,

nior mounts his horse; here one of the Grand Seignior's horses, richly caparisoned, is prepared for him, together with six others, for a yedec or reserve, which all walk before him unmounted, and led by his domestics; the Beyks follow these before the Prince's horse, with their halberts in their hands; and with this pomp, the music all the time playing, they depart from the palace of the Grand Seignior, followed by the Cavas Bashee and his attendants, all on horseback, most of whom have castans or robes of honour; in this manner they proceed to his palace. He sometimes after his nomination continues at Constantinople a week or ten days, holds a tribunal there, and is visited by all the Ministers of State.

Thus far have I given you a description of the Prince of Walachia, who is at present at Constantinople; from whence, when he departs, I shall inform you of his proceffion. I shall now describe to you the Captain Bashaw's ceremony, when he receives

receives his orders from, and takes leave of, the Grand Seignior.

On the 26th of this month the General, with three others of us, went to Mayts Scalefi, and took a boat, in order to follow the Captain Bashaw's galley; the men of war were in a right line on the Galata side, for near a mile in length—for the gallies have here the preference of the men of war. The Captain Bashaw's galley, which is called Bastarda, with three others, left the Arsenal at ten in the morning, with colours flying, and music playing; and with this pomp proceeded as far as the Yali Kiosk, or the Grand Seignior's summer house, near the palace, where, having landed, some of the Grand Seignior's attendants introduced him to his presence; then, kneeling down, he kissed the skirt of his robe; afterwards rising, he bowed again with his eyes to the ground. The Grand Seignior then ordered his Vizier to vest him with a magnificent pelice; after which he pronounced these words:

“ Thou

“ Thou art the King of the seas ; what-
 “ ever thou shalt do in my name, it shall
 “ be a law :” When he had again kneeled
 down as before, he withdrew, turning him-
 self, and bowing till he was out of the
 sight of the Grand Seignior. Before his
 departure from the summer house, the
 other three Admirals, the Capitana, the
 Patrona, and Riala, were vested with cas-
 tans ; after which they retired, each be-
 tween two attendants belonging to the
 Grand Seignior, advancing about six or
 seven yards, and then retreating three or
 four, bowing continually till they arrived
 at their boats ; which having entered,
 the Captain Bashaw saluted the Grand
 Seignior with an imperial salute ; after
 that followed the other gallies and men of
 war according to their rank ; the Vizier
 followed the Captain Bashaw in his barge,
 covered with green cloth, and went to
 Dolma Bahché, or the filled garden *,

* This place, in the time of the Christian Emperors,
 was a harbour ; and because the Turks could not advance
 as far as Constantinople on account of the chain across that
 harbour,

where they dined ; after which the She-
 hislam, or Mufti, took his leave ; the Vizier
 then vested some of the Captain Bashaw's
 attendants with castans, and then retired.
 The Captain Bashaw, after this, went into
 his galley, purposing, if the weather should
 permit, to set sail the next day ; but the
 wind being contrary, he was forced to de-
 lay ; during which I shall conclude for the
 present, subscribing myself,

Your most humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

Harbour, they entered this : having taken possession of it,
 they drove their gallies on shore ; and putting them on
 carts, brought them over land as far as Sostanium, where is
 fresh water ; and having launched them there, by these
 means got possession of this part of the city ; when they had
 subdued the whole, they filled the harbour up, and planted
 it with cyprus trees, In commemoration of this exploit,
 whenever the Captain Bashaw leaves Constantinople, the
 Vizier gives him a dinner with all his officers, under tents.

LET-

LETTER XII.

Pera, Constantinople, June 3, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

THIS letter will contain an account of my departure from this place ; previous to which I shall inform you of that of the General, and then of the Prince of Walachia and Captain Bashaw.

The General, after having made many calculations for his journey, resolved at last to go with some kiragees, or carriers, who brought the pilgrims to this place from Bagdat. Having fixed his departure for the first of May, and crossed the water in the morning, he, with the Captain and a servant, set off from Scutari about twelve o'clock, the Chaplain, a Dragoman, and your humble servant, accompanying them on the way till about three o'clock in the
after-

afternoon : we then stopped and rested ourselves in a little cottage, where a Turk sold coffee, which was all we could get till we returned to Chalcedon, where we dined ; after which we rode to Scutari, and, crossing the water, at about eight o'clock arrived again at Tophana. Before we landed, one of the boatmen, who happened to be an Emeer, and who generally extort where they can, refused to put us on shore, demanding more than the Dragoman, who was with us, had agreed to give him ; he continued abusing us with the vilest language he could command, till we consented to grant him more than his right, in order to get on shore. His impudence, however, did not pass with impunity ; for as soon as we got on land, part of us laid hold of his boat, while the Dragoman ran to the guard house, which was about fifty yards distant, and fetched proper officers to take the fellow into custody. The Emeer seeing that we acted with resolution, was very glad to yield, and with a servility equal to his former insolence, began to

entreat our pardon : which not availing, he begged the assistance of some Turks who stood there, none of whom would encourage him in his extortion. Soon after an officer from the guard house, with two Janisaries, arrived, took the man into custody, and confined him in chains, after this, the officer of the guard house treated us with coffee and pipes : we staid with him about half an hour, and then took our leave, leaving the Emeer in a situation which would teach him for the future a more decent behaviour to strangers : the next day we learnt, that the Emeer having made intercession with the Captain of the Guards to be permitted to ask pardon for his misbehaviour, promising for the future better conduct, he was discharged without giving any trouble to the Ambassador. Thus far our adventures on the first of May.

The procession of the Prince of Wallachia from Constantinople was made the 4th of this month ; having seated myself

in the room of a Jewish house, I had an opportunity of seeing the whole of this pompous retinue, which passed by the place in which I was.

The first part of the procession was horse, preceded by music playing and colours flying; after the first cavalcade, fifty men in British arms, which had been bought from an English gentleman who could not make use of them in his journey through the Turkish territories. This was the first Prince who had ever Greeks armed with English armour. After these went the Prince's reserve of twelve horses, all richly caparisoned; then the horse's tail, as mentioned in my last, and the standard of the principality*; after these followed the Beyks, and some of his domestics on foot; the Prince then advanced,

* The arms of this principality are a crow, with a cross held up in her beak; on the right hand of which is the sun, on the left the moon; the whole surrounded with the regalia.

mounted on a horse magnificently caparisoned, himself dressed in a splendid pelice of sable, and on his head the Kouka, on which are three white ostrich feathers. The shape of this Kouka, which is made of crimson velvet, is something similar to the cap worn by the light dragoons. After the Prince followed his ministers and officers according to their rank, till they got out of the gate of Adrianople. He stopped at Daout Pasha, at a small distance from which place is the palace of the Grand Seignior, about three miles distant on the west of Constantinople.

During the time that this procession continued, the Captain Bashaw set sail; the place of his destination is kept a profound secret, though it is whispered by some, that he goes against the Beys of Egypt.

Having thus related to you the departure of the General, of the Prince of Wallachia, and of the Captain Bashaw, I shall

now relate my own. When the General departed, I was left destitute of money ; and as for the little property I had, I could not find a purchaser ; I should have been exposed to many difficulties for my return, if his Excellency the Ambassador had not lent me some money on a bill of exchange ; to that gentleman's politeness and hospitality I must for ever, during my life, acknowledge my obligations. The sum which I thus obtained will enable me to begin my journey, and I purpose setting off the seventh of this month with a caravan* for Beligrad. During my journey I shall inform you of those occurrences which may merit your attention.

Previous to my departure his Excellency procured me a ferman, or order, of the Grand Seignior, which was translated by his Chancellor ; and for the sake of your

* A caravan is composed of several horses loaded with merchandizes and other effects, for the purpose of transporting them from one country to another.

amusement, I shall transcribe it here ; and being besides provided with a passport from the Ambassador, I went to Constantinople to make my agreement with the Kiragees for two horses, at twenty piasters each, (about two pounds English money) one for myself, the other for my baggage. My things being all prepared, I only wait for the day of departure, and that with impatience, for the desire of seeing once more Old England.

The translation of the ferman :

SULTAN
ABDULHAMIT,
ALWAYS
VICTORIOUS.

To the glorious class of Judges and Magistrates, fountains of virtue and eloquence ; the Judges and subaltern Magistrates, stationed on the way :

From

From my sublime Porte to the Bees Hudood*—may their virtue increase:

And to the glories of their equals and colleagues, the civil officers, generals of Janifaries, and other commanders—may their ranks be augmented.

On the receipt of this noble, imperial diploma, know ye, that the most exemplary of the grandees of the Christian nation, Cavalier Robert Ainslie (may his end be attended with happiness) sent a memorial, bearing his seal, to my gate of felicity, setting forth, that a British traveller, of the name of S. L., who arrived here some time since, is now on his return for England, requesting an imperial command to be issued, for the purpose that no hindrance or molestation may be given (contrary to the imperial capitulation) to his person, or to two Frank servants in his ser-

* Bees Hudood signifies the Frontiers of Hungary.

vice, in going from my sublime Porte to the Bees Hudood, either on the part of the poll-tax officers, for a demand of that tax, or on the part of any others, on any pretence whatever, or interfering with his dress; but that he, being protected and defended according to the imperial capitulation, may not be prevented from passing or proceeding safe and sound.

I have therefore issued this my sublime command, that it may be done as represented above; and I do hereby direct, that, on arrival of my noble order, issued as aforesaid, you, my Reverend Doctor*, and other officers, will not suffer, contrary to the imperial capitulation, any molestation or disturbance to be offered to the person, and to the two Frank servants of the said S. L. during his journey from my sublime Porte to the Bees Hudood, either on the part of the poll-tax officers, by a de-

* The Reverend Doctor is the Mula, or Chief Justice of Peace and Bishop.

mand

mand of that tax, or on the part of others, under any pretences whatever, or by interfering in his dress, but that you will facilitate his proceedings safe and sound, defend and protect him according to the imperial capitulations, and act conformably to the tenor of my imperial command.

Thus be it known, and faith given to the noble Signadour. Written towards the end of the moon Regeb, in the Hegira 1200; that is, the latter end of May 1786, at the Court of Constantinople.

You will doubtless, Sir William, think this letter continued to an unpardonable length; but that I may no longer intrude on your patience, permit me to conclude, by subscribing myself

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET-

LETTER XIII.

Adrianople, June 12, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

I Arrived at this city, which is the capital of Thrace, this morning; and as soon as I had a little recovered my fatigue, I prepared to give you an account of the progress of my journey from Constantinople to this place. The travelling is rendered very pleasant, by viewing the country through which we passed, and of which I am about to give you a short description.

In my last letter I informed you, that my departure from Constantinople was fixed for the 7th; accordingly, having taken leave of his Excellency the Ambassador, my dear friend Mr. Tooke, and other friends there, I went with my baggage to Mayts Skelesi, where I crossed the
water

water to Killeet Han, or Keys Inn ; at this place the men loaded their horses : having set off about noon, we were forced to stop at the Kara Kiumbruk, or Black Custom House, near the Adrianople gate, while all the goods of the merchants were examined ; so that we did not begin our journey till three o'clock in the afternoon. The road for some miles from the Adrianople gate is paved with stones ; the day was pleasant, and as it had rained in the morning, not excessively hot, so that I could view with pleasure an extensive country, for the most part, well cultivated. On the right hand of the way, soon after we had left Constantinople, is the burying ground of the Arminians, which is planted with mulberry trees, extending about a quarter of a mile ; on the left of this ground are some kitchen gardens, in which are planted fig trees, cherry trees, &c. On the other side of the road is the Turkish burying ground, planted with cyprus and other kind of trees. On the road side are corn fields, which seemed to promise plentiful crops

crops of wheat and barley, and which continue as far as Daout Pasha, where there is a small palace of the Grand Seignior's, with a garden surrounded with a wall; on the outside of which is an octagon kioshk, or summer house, in which the Grand Seignior seats himself, when he is disposed to see the girit, or horse race, according to the Turkish custom; or to take a view of his horses when at grass. Near this place are some quarries of stones.

Having left this place, at about six in the evening we passed through Kiuchuk Chek-megeai, a village situated on the declivity of a hill, and inhabited by Greeks and Turks, containing about forty or fifty houses. On the west side of this village is a lake, the breadth of which is about three miles; and in length it runs up the country for the distance of eight or nine miles; to the north of this lake a river discharges itself, whose ancient name was Bathynias; about the distance of a quarter of a mile to the south is the sea, with which it has a commu-

communication by canals, which bring great quantities of fish, though the water is not deep. Over the canals, which are three in number, is a stone bridge of about two hundred yards in length. Having passed this bridge, we alighted on a small hill, on the west side of the lake, where we continued for that night.

In the morning of the 8th we set off from this place, and the day being clear and pleasant, we passed it very agreeably ; amusing ourselves sometimes with a pipe, while we were indulging our sight with a view of the country ; sometimes with a Turkish song, with which our fellow travellers were not backward in favouring us. Pleasing ourselves with these amusements, we descended a valley, in which there was a bridge of freestone of six arches. In this valley were several horses of the General of the Janisaries, which were put there to graze, together with tents for the keepers ; for in Turkey, on the 23d of May, old stile, all their horses are sent out
to

to graze during a month. At six o'clock we began to ascend the opposite hill, which is pleasantly shaded with fine trees, affords plenty of grass, and in one part of it has a clear fountain; at this place we alighted to refresh ourselves, and to get some breakfast.

Having cheered ourselves with this refreshment, in about a quarter of an hour after we mounted our horses, and prepared to descend into the valley of Beyuk Chekmegeai, which presents a most pleasing appearance; on the north side is a hill, the top and declivity of which are finely cultivated, and planted with vineyards and fruit trees; and the valley itself, too, produces great quantity of corn. On the south is the sea. The descent, which is for about a quarter of a mile, brings us to some plains of a tolerable extent; all of which bear a pleasing view of culture and fertility. At about eight o'clock we arrived at the town, where we stopped again to get some more refreshment. In this village

village are three hans, one of which is built of fine square stone, and presents a very elegant appearance ; it is a hundred yards in length, forty in breadth, and in height sixteen. This village contains about sixty houses, inhabited by Greeks and Turks, and is situated on the declivity of the afore-mentioned hill ; on the west of it is a lake about half a mile over, which has a communication with the sea by canals, in which boats come from thence to this village, which is about two miles and a half distant from it. Over these canals, which are three in number, there is a bridge to each, built of fine square stone. Provisions of all kinds are very cheap, but especially fish, of which there is great abundance, partly caught in the lake, which is seven or eight feet deep, partly brought from other parts by the communication of the canals. At nine o'clock we mounted our horses to pursue our journey ; and having passed the bridges, we were presented with a view of the sea on one side, and on another with a fine extensive country,

try, interspersed with different villages, farms, and woods; among which is the farm of the Sultana, situated near the sea side. At ten o'clock the heat of the day was so intense that we could proceed no farther, and my parasol not affording a sufficient shade for us all, we were obliged to form one as well as we could with some canvass cloth, and what else we could get from the caravan; in this situation, having turned our horses to grass, we continued till half after two in the afternoon, when we set off, and in about an hour after arrived at a village near the sea, called Gumbogasee; in this place we stopped, and got such refreshment as Greek shops there afforded us.

One of my fellow travellers was a Kadee or Judge, a native of Jannena, the present capital of Epirus, who was going to Bosna. This gentleman, as he spoke the modern Greek language with great propriety, was a very acceptable companion, and we mutually found amusement by conversation, when

when the prospect of the country was not pleasing enough to employ our attention. For the present, however, we needed no other amusement than that of admiring the fertility of the country: for having passed this village, which contains about twenty houses, on one hand a delightful extent of well-cultivated land presented itself, together with various hills, which form a great part of the great Mount Rhodopus; on which were seen a great number of poor industrious Greeks, who, by hard labour, endeavour to gain a subsistence for life: on the other side, at the foot of the Mount Rodopus, and about three miles distant from the sea, are several large villages, one of which, bigger than the rest, is, by the Greeks, called Economion; and by the Turks, Galish-sceastro.

At about half past five we arrived at a town called Pivates, containing about three hundred houses, inhabited wholly by Greeks, except the Governor alone, who is a Turk, a man of great hospitality,

and very partial to the English. The Bishop of Silivria extends his jurisdiction over this town, which is much less subject to oppression from the Turks than several others. Having spent about an hour in this place, in company with the Governor, who was as affable and agreeable a companion, as generous a man, we rode away in quest of some place where we could put our horses to grass, and at half after seven we came to a field convenient for that purpose, where we alighted for that night, and, taking a little refreshment, lay down to repose. At four o'clock we set off, and arrived at Salivria at a quarter past five.

This town contains nine hundred houses; the Greeks inhabit three hundred and thirty, and have three churches; the Arminians thirty, and have one church: the rest belong to the Turks. All the houses and churches, which belong to the Greeks and Arminians, are in the inclosure of the ancient castle, whose walls are in great decay. The whole of the town is
situated

situated on the declivity of a hill, which affords a pleasant appearance, being on both sides of the road for upwards of a mile planted with vineyards, and different kinds of fruit trees, such as apricots, cherries, apples, pears, and fig trees.

To the west of this hill, terminating on the sea shore, is the castle; the rest to the north forms the other part of the town. Near the castle is an indifferent harbour, only proper for small vessels; and to the west of the town is a river, over which is a fine stone bridge, three hundred yards in length, and about six in breadth. On the opposite point of the castle, at the distance of about four miles, which forms the Bay of Silivria, is another town with a much more commodious harbour. The Turks, though they are by far the greatest part of the inhabitants, do not exercise any severity on the rest. Provisions are cheap, and in great abundance, but especially bread, which is the whitest and best that I ever

eat in Turkey : the Para* loaf weighs two pounds English.

Having breakfasted at this town, we mounted our horses to overtake the caravan, (for we always let that advance some distance before we set off) and continued our journey till eleven o'clock in the forenoon ; during which time we passed a village called Kaimacli. I was surprised to see the corn fields in these parts, some of which are three miles in length, and extend towards the sea for about the space of a mile and a half ; in all these nothing was to be seen but wheat, of near five feet in height, and from six to ten stalks springing from the same root ; some of the ears I measured, which were four inches long, and one inch broad. On the north side of the road, the fields which were not sowed, I saw ploughed by men, who employed nine yoke of oxen in each plough ; the

* Para is a coin, in value more than a halfpenny, and less than three farthings.

foil is of a black colour, and very hard. In all our way we did not meet with one stone; nor were any trees to be seen, except near towns and villages. Having passed this village, we rode over a bridge, and about half after eleven we stopped to rest ourselves and our horses; and it being very hot, we took shelter under a wild pear tree, where we began to refresh ourselves with what we had brought with us. On this tree was a hairy kind of an insect, of about three inches long, one of which falling on my neck, stung me, and occasioned a swelling, which continued for three or four days. From the place we last left to here, the land was entirely uncultivated, for the people here only exercise tillage in the fields every alternate year. At six o'clock we came to Chowrlow; all the environs of which are well cultivated, and planted with vineyards and fruit trees, especially cherries. At a quarter after seven we alighted at a field to the south of this town, where we remained the night.

June 10th, at four in the morning, the Kiragees began to load, and at a quarter before five we passed through the town, which contains about eighty houses, inhabited by Turks, Greeks, and Arminians. On the north side of it, are seen the vestiges of an old castle. When we left the town, we passed through a small valley, and continuing our journey till eleven o'clock, we stopped, having turned out our horses to graze for the mid-day's rest, as usual, at about the distance of a mile from a village called Cara Shetteran, which is inhabited by Turks, and has two hans. At four in the afternoon we set off from this place, and at eight in the evening took up our night's abode in a field.

Having departed from this place at four the next morning, we travelled till about six, when we arrived, and breakfasted at a town called Pergas, which contains eight or nine hundred houses, two hundred of which are only inhabited by Greeks, whose church is in a village called Aiy-Valee,
about

about the distance of a mile, containing near five hundred houses : the Turks have here likewise a fine jamee, or mosque. Provisions are here sold at a very moderate price, and are in great plenty : good bread is at the price of two paras the oka*, and mutton at eight paras the oka, and all other kinds of food equally cheap in proportion. The Turks here are very affable to strangers, and are far from making those extortions on travellers which, in some places, are too much practised.

Previous to our departure from the town, the Cadee, or Judge, and I, gave orders to the Kiragee (whose name was Demetrius) to buy us a whole lamb, which we purposed to dress at the place where we should stop at the mid-day's repose ; we accordingly, having made this purchase, set off, pleased with the thoughts of regaling ourselves with a good dinner. But before we arrived at a place convenient for

* An oka is about two pounds ten ounces English weight.

our intended repast, a heavy shower of rain had almost disappointed our expectations, and rendered impracticable the dressing our dinner. Having arrived at the place appointed for our moon-day's delay, (about four miles distant from a village called Old Papa,) and every thing being provided which was necessary for the roasting our food, our only difficulty was in finding the means of kindling a fire, which, from the rain continuing, was, apparently, totally impossible. Our mortification was great, which was still heightened by the consideration that it was the day of Pentecost, which the Christians in Turkey particularly appropriate to feasting and festivity; and we having made every provision, were very unwilling to be disappointed in what we had so much depended on. Our situation proved the veracity of the proverb, that necessity is the parent of invention. As I had on a large cloak, I thought I could dispense with my umbrella, which had hitherto proved of such essential service in defending me from the rain :

rain : ordering the Kiragee to light a fire, I held up this in order to facilitate its burning by keeping off the wet ; we next proceeded to drive two sticks in the ground, on which was placed a third, which made a spit, and on which we put the lamb ; another of the Kiragees performed the office of turnspit ; and in this manner, in about two hours, the lamb was ready to be served up ; when the Cadee and I, having taken sufficient for our dinner, regaled the other travellers and Kiragees with the rest, who were in number fifteen, who, as the lamb had weighed nine okas, found themselves very well satisfied with our treat.

At half after three we set off for the rest of the day's journey, and in about an hour and half we arrived at Old Papa. This town contains about three hundred houses, has a fine mosque built by the same architect as that of Pergas, and at the charge of Ibrahimchan. The Greeks have about fifty houses in this town ; their church is in another village at a small distance.

Having

Having taken a little refreshment, we followed the caravan, and at half after seven we passed through a village called Culleli, which stands in a marshy ground, and contains about thirty houses, inhabited by Turks only. At half a mile distant from this village we remained in a field for the night.

In the morning of June 12th we breakfasted at a town called Hafsa, which contains about three hundred houses, among which is a han large enough to accommodate six thousand men, with their horses. At eight o'clock we set off for Adrianople, and at eleven in the forenoon we saw the minarets, or steeples, of Sultan Selim, which are at the distance of about twelve miles. We now began to descend a hill, at the bottom of which is a fine fountain, and then went over a wooden bridge. The valley between this hill, and that of the north side towards Adrianople, which is about a mile in breadth, is very fertile; the wheat and Indian corn grow to an
amazing

amazing height. We came afterwards to the hill where criminals are impaled, and saw four of them who had undergone that punishment about a fortnight. Afterwards we passed through a road cut in a hill, and then came to the plains of Adrianople; in which is a fine road, having on both sides large corn fields. Half way from the said hill is a fountain, with an agreeable shelter for travellers: in this place we stopped a little time for refreshment, and saw here the Archbishop and some Greek gentlemen who were going to Constantinople. At about one o'clock we arrived at Adrianople; and being fatigued by the length of the journey, and the heat of the day, we went to an han to take a little repose.

Having dined, I then sat down to write to you this long epistle; and as I am to stay here till to-morrow, I shall in my next give you a small description of this town

town and the adjacent parts. For the present, I remain,

Dear Sir,

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

LET

LETTER XIV.

Adrianople, June 13, 1787.

DEAR SIR,

IN my last I informed you of my arrival in this city, and now, conformable to my promise, I proceed to inform you of the situation of it, and of the country round about. The town is situated on the north side of the river Maritsa, or Hebrus; the eastern part stands on a hilly ground, in which is the famous mosque of the Sultan Selim: this edifice standing on an elevated place, makes a fine appearance; the body of it is a square, on each corner of which is a minaret, or steeple. The base is a square form, of reddish colour stone. It is in height about eighteen feet, and the breadth of each side is nine feet. The steeples are in a round form, of the same marble, and fluted from the bottom to the top.

top. They have three galleries in each, from which the Hogia, or Priest, call the people to namas, or prayers. The whole height appears to me to be about a hundred-and-forty feet, from the base, and in circumference twenty four. The mosque has a dome, of about eighty feet in height; round which, in the inside, are galleries. The ground is paved with large, square, black and white marble stones, intermixed. It has four doors, one to each of the four points; before each door is a portico and steps; except the north, which is level, and has a square court yard before it of about forty feet in diameter; round about are arches supported by pillars, and covered with lead, with which likewise the top of the mosque is covered. The ground occupied in this building is about a mile in circumference. There are likewise several other fine mosques, but none of them approach this in magnificence.

The merchant's market of Ali-Pasha is built of stone, and arched over; it is about
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a hundred and ninety yards long, and ten broad ; on each side are the shops, extending from north to south. It has four gates, one at each end, and two in the middle. The eastern gate leads, by a stone staircase, into the yard of a mosque ; and the western to the Greeks quarter. The other market, which is near the Sultan Selim, called Araştat, is in the same form as the first, though not so long ; it chiefly consists of shoemakers' shops. The beseftain, or market, where the most valuable merchandises are sold, is rather small, and not very rich. These are the most remarkable markets, but in most of the streets there are many shops, in which all kinds of commodities are sold. The hans are mostly built of stone, of two or three stories high ; the best of which are those where the Franks reside. The houses are the same as in other Turkish towns,

The streets are all paved, and on each side is raised a footpath about three feet from the middle. Most of the streets are shaded

shaded with boards from the heat of the sun, which render them rather obscure. The inhabitants are about a hundred and thirty thousand in number, thirty thousand of them are Greeks, who have eight or ten churches. The Greeks here, by means of an extensive commerce, are tolerably rich. The Arminians and Jews are about a thousand in number; the rest are all Turks. The Governor is a Bostangibashee, or General of the Life Guard of the Grand Seignior.

Adrianople was formerly surrounded by a wall, which is now in great decay. To the west is a gate still remaining, which was built by the Romans; on the outside of which are the quarters of the Greeks, Arminians, and Jews. The rivers which join Marista, under the walls of the city, are Artta, and Tungia; the former of which comes from the north, and flows into the Tungia, which is a branch of the Marista, or ancient Hebrus, coming from the west: they all of them join about the middle of the

the south part of the wall. Over each of these three rivers is a bridge, built partly of stone, partly of wood ; and lower down, where they join, is another built of stone. The plains of Adrianople are surrounded with hills in form of an amphitheatre, most of which are cultivated, especially the eastern parts, which are planted with fine vineyards and fruit trees from the top to the bottom ; the plains too are divided into gardens and corn fields, and form, on the whole, a pleasing variety.

Maritza is a navigable river, which discharges itself beyond the peninsula of Calipoli, into the gulph of Neno and Samothrace. In the former of these places, which is at the mouth of the river, smullets are caught of a most delicious flavour : the smallest of them are dried by the inhabitants, and sent to foreign markets. By this river, in small country vessels, the French merchants resident at

Adrianople make all their imports and exports.

Trade to these parts, by all our English merchants, is very much neglected, though they are in possession of many valuable privileges; of which, for your information, and that of our friends, I have here enclosed a translation. To my certain knowledge, were a merchant house established here, and another at Philippopolis, many and very great advantages would accrue to Great Britain. The produce of this country is silk, wool, buffalo skins, lamb skins, corn, and wine.

Yesterday a French merchant of Adrianople gave me an invitation to visit him at his country house, about three miles distant from this city, in a small village, called Cara Agage, or Black Elm, situated on the banks of the Maritza, chiefly inhabited by French families. I was treated with great friendship and politeness; and having staid there all night, I returned
this

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this morning to Yegni Han, or New Inn ;
from which place I write you this account. At three in the afternoon we set off from hence to Philippopolis. I remain,

Dear Sir,

Your humble, and

Obedient servant,

S. L.

This morning I went to the
bank which is a very fine
one. It is a very fine one
and I am very much interested
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PRIVILEGES

*Granted to the British nation by the Porte,
and confirmed by Sultan Mahomet, trans-
lated from the original.*

SULTAN MAHOMET.

May he live for ever.

Act in conformity to this treaty, nor con-
sent to any thing contrary to the same.

THE following is the illustrious com-
mand given under the sublime signature—
majestic and sublime in every place—the
imperial order, under the noble cypher of
the Emperor and Conqueror of the Earth,
who, aided by divine assistance, and the
special grace of the Omnipotent, forms
the grand splendor of the world.

I, at present, by divine grace and assistance, am King of the Kings of the Earth, the refuge and defence of the Emperors of every age ; the distributor of Crowns to temporal Monarchs ; the champion of Mahomet, son of Sultan Ibrahim Chan, son of Sultan Achmed Chan, son of Sultan Mahomed. Chan, son of Sultan Murad Chan, son of Sultan Selim Chan, son of Sultan Suleiman Chan, son of Sultan Selim Chan.

Charles the Second, (whose end may it terminate in good,) the most glorious among the great Princes of the faith of Jesus, the most conspicuous among the potentates of the nation of the Messiah, the arbiter of the public disputes which arise among the Christian people, surrounded with magnificence and majesty, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, having sent an Ambassador, in the time of my grandfather Sultan Murad, (whose tomb, erected to his glorious memory, may it be resplendent, and he be recommended

mended to divine mercy and pity,) discovering marks of friendship and sincerity, and professing a singular partiality and good will to the sublime Porte, obtained permission that his people might travel in these parts. This being granted in the time of the aforesaid Sultan, several other articles relative to travelling by land and sea were likewise consented to, forbidding any molestation whatever to be offered to them.

The Queen of the aforesaid country having likewise sent a noble Personage with gifts and presents to the victorious Porte, (which is the refuge and protection of the Kings of the world, the place of the most distinguished, and the asylum of the Emperors of the universe,) and representing that, in the time of my predecessor, Sultan Mahomet Chan, (whose tomb may it be blessed,) there subsisted a happy cordiality, a sincere friendship and partiality between him and the King before mentioned, as well as with the other Kings and Princes

of France, Venice, Poland, who profess a particular attachment and devotion to the most eminent Liminane*, and others, with whom the sublime Porte maintains a sincere friendship and good correspondence ; and that, as such privileges were granted to the aforesaid Kings and Princes, so also was it granted to the before-mentioned King (Charles) for friendship sake, that his people might travel and exercise commerce in our dominions. As therefore these concessions were before made by our sublime dignity and command, so also, at the request of the said Queen, were granted the following articles :

Article I.

That the merchants of the English nations, and others, who traffic under the British flag, shall have liberty to voyage in their ships and vessels, with divers sorts of merchandizes, to sail with safety in our

* The Pope.

dominions without receiving the least injury to their person or property ; nor shall they by any means be molested, but left in full liberty to attend to their own affairs.

Article II.

That if any of the English, travelling by land through our dominions, meet with any molestation, or be detained in their journey, they shall be immediately released, without receiving any farther trouble.

Article III.

That the English ships or vessels entering into any of the ports or creeks of our dominions, shall stay there during their own pleasure safe and sound ; and when they wish to go thence, no one shall interrupt them in their departure.

Article

Article IV.

That any of their ships being distressed by stormy weather, and not provided with things necessary and requisite, whatever public ships, vessels, men of war, or others, be present, shall be obliged to assist them.

Article V.

That as long as they shall stay in any of the ports or creeks of our dominions, and shall be desirous of purchasing provisions, or other necessary things, or providing water, no one shall hinder or molest them.

Article VI.

That in case any of their ships shall, in any part of our dominions, be cast on shore by storm or shipwreck, the Beys, Cadees, Governors, Commanders, or others my slaves there resident, shall be obliged to assist them, and enable them to obtain all their property which shall be cast on shore ;
and

and in case any one shall steal any part of such property, the Governors shall make diligent search to find out the things so stolen, and restore them to their proper owners.

Article VII.

That the merchants, shipbrokers, interpreters, or other persons, under the above-said Queen, shall have liberty to travel in our dominions with all security, and traffic either by sea or land; and in their coming and going they shall not be exposed to any interruption or molestation from the Beys, Cadees, Captains or Janisaries, or any of my slaves, under any pretence whatever, either in their persons or properties.

Article VIII.

If any of the English subjects be involved in debt, or accused of any crimes; and either abscond, or become a bankrupt, the creditor shall still have a claim on him
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for such debt contracted; but if he be possessed of no bond or security in writing, given by the debtor, in that case no satisfaction shall be demanded for such debt.

Article IX.

If any dispute arise between the merchants of our dominions, and the English merchants, or others of the English subjects, interpreters, shipbrokers, or others, concerning buying, selling, or traffic of any kind, insurance, or other affairs of the law, they shall go before a Justice of the Peace to register their cause, and take a hoget, or certificate: and if afterwards any farther controversy arise, they shall refer to the register and hoget; and their cause being found conformable to the said hoget, they are to act accordingly. But if no hoget be procured from the Justice, but they be desirous of procuring false testimony, in that case their cause shall not be heard, it not being conformable to the laws of justice.

Article

Article X.

That in case any one shall attempt to raise any slander on the English, by saying that injury has been done by them, and in proof thereof shall produce false witness, this shall not be brought before the Justice of Peace, but be reported to their Ambassador, in whose presence it shall be decided, and ample justice done.

Article XI.

That in case any of the English, being guilty of any crime, shall abscond, no Englishman, who had not been security for him, shall be obliged to be answerable for him, or be imprisoned.

Article XII.

That in case any of the English subjects shall be enslaved in our dominions, and their Ambassador or Consul wish to have them released, enquiry being made, and there

there being found any belonging to that nation, they shall immediately be delivered up, and restored to their Ambassador or Consul.

Article XIII.

That the English subjects also resident in our dominions, whether married or single, merchants, or artisans, shall be exempted from paying any tribute.

Article XIV.

That the English Ambassadors shall have power to appoint or dismiss Consuls in the following towns, viz. Aleppo, Scanderune, Tripoli in Africa, Tunis, Tripoli in Syria and Barbary, Cio or Chio, Smyrna, Egypt, and in other places of our dominions, without being exposed to any opposition from any of my slaves.

Article XV.

That in case any of the English subjects shall have a dispute, or course of law,
the

the Justice of the Peace shall have no power over them, without their interpreter, or some one else chosen, to hear and explain their cause.

Article XVI.

That the English having any disputes, or courses of law, among themselves, their Ambassadors or Consuls shall adjust their affairs, agreeable to their usage and custom, without any interference of the Justices of Peace, Governors, or others, my slaves.

Article XVII.

That the public ships, gallies, or other vessels, sailing in our seas, whenever they meet with any of the English ships or vessels, shall not molest or hinder them in their voyage, or do them any injury, under any pretence or cause whatever, but shall always acknowledge them as friends.

Article

Article XVIII.

That those articles of treaty which were granted to the French, the Venetians, and other Princes in alliance with the sublime Porte, shall likewise, for friendship sake, be granted to the English, and by virtue of the commands which I have given, shall be observed in the same manner as the others, inviolably; nor shall any opposition or resistance whatever be made to them.

Article XIX.

That if the pirates and gallies of the Levant should, in our dominions, seize any of the English vessels, and take away their property by force, all diligent search shall be made, and possible endeavours be exerted, to have such restored, and to bring the criminals and perpetrators of such actions to condign punishment.

Article XX.

That the Beyler-Beys, public Captains, private Governors, Commanders, and other Ministers, shall be obliged to act agreeably to these imperial orders, and conformably to the laws of friendship; nor shall they consent to any thing contradictory to these articles, as long as the abovesaid Queen maintains a true and sincere friendship, observes the agreements included, and remains stedfast in her affection to us, as we to her. These articles and conditions of mutual friendship shall be preserved inviolate, the same which were concluded on, and granted in the time of my grandfather, Sultan Ahmed, whose tomb may it ever be blessed.

Other distinct articles were afterwards again granted in the happy times of my said grandfather, Sultan Ahmed, (whose tomb may it be blessed,) in consequence of James, King of England, having sent an Ambassador with presents, (which were

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accepted,) requesting, that the same treaty of peace and friendship which had subsisted between his kingdom and the sublime Porte in my grandfather's time, should be again confirmed and renewed; and that to the above conditions there should be added divers other articles. Having therefore represented to the Imperial Throne this his request and desire of future friendship and good correspondence to take place, it was stipulated, that, conformable to the conditions granted to the other Princes in alliance with the sublime Porte, the articles and agreements of this august treaty should be renewed and confirmed, and that all future actions should be regulated thereby. The articles which were added to the others, at the request of the aforesaid King, are the following.

Article XXI.

That the English, or other merchants who traffic under the British flag in our dominions, shall not be obliged to pay any
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duty

duty for the dollars and sechins, or ducats, which they import and export at different places.

Article XXII.

That the Beyler-Bey, Justices of the Peace, or Commissioners of the Mint, shall not oppose, or give them any molestation or trouble, under pretence of exchanging their dollars or ducats for the coin of the country.

Article XXIII.

That the English nation, and the ships of other parts subject to them, shall have full liberty to buy and sell, and traffic and load with all kinds of merchandises in our dominions, (gunpowder, defensive arms, and other prohibited goods being excepted,) and that in their imports and exports no one shall, at any time, hinder or molest them, but that they shall be permitted, with all safety, to traffic in our dominions,

to remain in our ports and harbours, to purchase all necessary provisions, or provide fresh water, without being exposed to any injury whatever.

Article XXIV.

That the English subjects having any disagreement or dispute, in any affairs of law, the Justice of Peace shall have no power over them, without the presence of their Ambassador or Consul, or Interpreter, to explain their cause and difference : but if the sum in dispute be four thousand aspres, or above, then it shall be decided in the sublime Porte, and no where else shall it be heard.

Article XXV.

That the Consuls appointed by the English Ambassadors in our dominions, for the protection of the merchants of their nation, shall not be put under any arrest, or be deposed ; nor shall their houses be

searched, or sealed up, under any pretence whatever ; but whatever demands be made against them, they shall be represented before my exalted Porte, where their Ambassador shall answer for them.

Article XXVI.

That in case any of the English subjects, or others, travelling under English colours, shall happen to die in our dominions, the officers or other ministers shall have no power to lay hands on, or violently to seize their property, under pretence of not knowing to whom such property belongs ; but, on the contrary, the property shall be delivered to whatever Englishman the deceased had bequeathed it ; but if he die intestate, then his goods or property shall be delivered to his consul, or friend, who might have been with him : but if it so happen that there be no consul or friend in the place where he died, then shall his property be taken into the custody of the Justice of Peace, by whom

it shall be restored to whomsoever the Ambassador shall send to demand it.

Article XXVII.

That all the articles which have been, or which shall, in future, be ceded and granted to the English subjects, or others, travelling under their flag, shall be strictly observed in all actions conformably thereto, and that every endeavour shall be exerted to facilitate them, and prevent any thing to be done contrary to the same; nor shall any fee be demanded by the Fiscals, or Justices, in the performance of their duty.

Article XXVIII.

That the Ambassadors, or Consuls, may employ in their service whatever Janisaries, or Interpreters, they please, without any of the said Janisaries, or others of my slaves, intruding themselves by force into their service.

Article

Article XXIX.

That the Ambassadors, Consuls, or others of the English, being desirous of manufacturing wine in their houses, for their own use, or that of their servants; in such employment they shall not be interrupted; nor shall any of the Justices, or other Ministers, or Janisaries, my slaves, take away any thing from them by force, or offer them any prejudice, molestation, or injustice.

Article XXX.

That the English merchants having once paid duty for their merchandise at Constantinople, Aleppo, Scanderune, Scio, Smyrna, or other places in our dominions, they shall not pay it again in any other places; nor shall they be prevented in selling their merchandises.

Article XXXI.

That the English unloading their goods in any of the ports of our dominions, and
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having

having paid the duty and the rights of the custom in another place of the said dominions, and shall not be able to sell their goods, they may carry them to some other part, without being subject to any farther demand of customary rights, or being exposed to any other molestation or trouble.

Article XXXII.

That none of the English subjects shall pay any tax upon meat.

Article XXXIII.

Whereas there has happened a controversy between the Ambassadors of the Queen of England, and those of the French King, concerning the affairs of the Flemish merchants; and both of them have presented memorials at our most august feet, representing, that the said merchants, who traffic in our dominions, ought to come under their protection; there was in consequence granted to both parties a
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hat-sheiff, or imperial order : but the late Ceigula Zadè-Sinan, Captain Pashaw, who was afterwards Vizier, being a man much exercised in, and well conversant with naval affairs, represented that this privilege ought to be granted to the queen of England ; and that the Flemish merchants, as also those of the four provinces of Holland, Zealand, Friezeland, and Guilderland, and all the other neighbouring countries, should be under her protection, and voyage under the English flag, and pay, as English subjects, the consulate and other rights to the Ambassadors or Consuls of the English Queen, for their own merchandise, or others with which they load their ships: it was therefore ordered by our exalted command, as in the hat-sheiff, that the French Ambassadors and Consuls should not proceed any farther in any opposition or controversy, but act conformably to these articles.

Afterwards came another Ambassador from the Queen, with presents and gifts, which

which were accepted. The Ambaffador represented, that her Majesty wished that some other articles might be added to the former; and at the fame time he represented an illustrious memorial, intimating, that in the happy times of my ancestor, Sultan Suleiman, (whose tomb may it be blessed) it was granted in the treaties, that the merchants of Spain, Portugal, Ancona, Sicily, Florence Catalonia, Flanders, and all the merchants of the nations at enmity might travel in our dominions, and exercise their traffic; and that it was moreover mentioned in the treaty, that they should appoint Consuls; but as all of them are not capable of maintaining these, they were permitted to put themselves under the protection of some King in alliance with the sublime Porte, and to have recourse to their Consuls, under whose protection they chose to be. There having been, on this account, several orders and articles made, they chose rather to navigate under the English flag, and to have recourse to their Consuls in the ports and har-

harbours. The French Ambassadors, in an artful manner, joined this privilege of the merchants at enmity to their own treaty, being desirous of making them by force apply to their Consuls. But these nations having represented this to my august tribunal, and demanded their justice, their cause was thus decided, that they should be permitted the liberty of making their own choice. They applied therefore, as before, to the English Ambassadors and Consuls; but in this they were molested and opposed by the French Ambassador. The English in consequence having represented to us, that it was not right that those articles, made concerning the nations at enmity, should be added to the treaty made with the French, but that it should be again registered, and specified, that all those nations might, in future, have recourse to the English Consuls; and that the French should not any more throw any obstacles in their way. A command was therefore given, that the merchants of the above-mentioned countries should apply to the English Ambassadors

fadors and Consuls, in the manner prescribed in the exalted commands granted to them. It was moreover again registered in the imperial treaty, that in this affair, if any thing should be transacted contrary to the sublime order, it would be considered as a violation of the sincere friendship and correspondence at present subsisting : it was ordered likewise, that notice should be given to the English Ambassador resident in my happy Porte, to direct him how to act in future, so that no mistake might be made tending to violate the conditions of this treaty.

Article XXXIV.

That in Aleppo, Egypt, and other parts of my dominions, the English merchants, or other subjects, may, according to their station, freely traffic, and pay for their merchandises, conformably to the tariff, without being obliged to pay an aspire, or farthing, more.

Article

Article XXXV.

That all merchandises loaded, and carried in English vessels, for which the usual duties are paid, are likewise to pay the consulate to the Ambassador, or Consul, of their nation.

Article XXXVI.

That the English merchants, and others, who travel under the English protection, may traffic in, and purchase, at their pleasure, all kinds of merchandise, except prohibited goods, and import them to their own country, either by land or sea; and also to the Muscovite or Russian dominions, by the river Tanai; and may import from those countries, into our dominions and conquered provinces, any kind of merchandise, in way of commerce, without receiving any molestation whatever.

Article XXXVII.

That for such-like merchandises, in our
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conquered provinces, a duty shall be demanded agreeable to the established tariff, but that no farther exactions shall be made.

Article XXXVIII.

That if any ships, bound for Constantinople, be stopped in their passage, by contrary winds, and take shelter in Caffa, or other places in those parts, and the merchants shall not be willing to traffic with them in any of their commodities, no force shall be employed to compel them to land any of their merchandise, nor any molestation be offered to their ships or men ; nor shall they be prevented in their departure ; but on the contrary, the Governors shall afford them protection and assistance in any dangerous places ; nor shall they permit them to be exposed to any injury, or loss of their property : but if they be desirous to purchase provisions, or other things necessary, in the place in which they are, in such honest purchase they shall not be prevented.

Article

Article XXXIX.

That the merchandises imported to Constantinople, or other places of our dominions, and being landed not with the intention of being sold, shall not pay any duty.

Article XL.

That their ships being in any part of our ports, and having unloaded their cargoes and paid duty, they may depart thence without any obstacle being made.

Article XLI.

That the English ships, in coming into our dominions, having touched at some ports in Africa and Barbary, and taken some pilgrims and other passengers on board, in the intention of disembarking them at Scanderune and other places; and where the Commanders and Governors of the said places had demanded duties for
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the whole of their goods before they were landed, and in consequence of this demand they had refused to take any more pilgrims and passengers ; and moreover, goods being violently taken from the ships going to Constantinople, loaded with cargoes, destined for other places, by the officers of the customs who demanded duty for goods which were not landed ; for the future, English property coming to Constantinople, Alexandria, Tripoli in Syria, and other parts of our dominions, shall pay duty of the customs only, for those goods which are landed by their own pleasure, in order to be sold ; and for the goods which remain on board, no duty shall be demanded, nor shall the officers give them any trouble or molestation, but permit them the liberty of going where they please.

Article XLII.

That if any of the English, or those living in our dominions under their protection,

tion, shall commit murder, or any other crime, the Governor of that place shall have no power of trying such criminal, without the presence of the Ambassador or Consul; before whom the trial shall be heard without any molestation, it being contrary to the sublime law and happy treaty to listen to it without them.

Article XLIII.

It being registered in the imperial treaty, that from the English ships, loaded with goods, coming into our dominions, the Ambassador and English Consuls have the right of demanding the consulate for such goods as pay the duty of the customs: but whereas some Turkish merchants, Sciots, Franks, and enemies, have refused to pay these rights of the consulate; for the future, all sorts of goods which are subject to the duties of the customs are to pay the rights of the consulate, whenever they come loaded in English ships, of what nation soever the owner of the

cargo may be, without making any excuse or opposition whatever.

Article XXIV.

That the English, or those merchants under the English flag, who travel or traffic to Aleppo, and buy silk, with which they load their own ships, shall pay the duty of the customs and other rights, as paid by the French and Venetians, without being obliged to pay an aspre more.

Article XLV.

That the Ambassadors resident in my sublime Porte, being representatives of the English Kings, and their interpreters being representatives of them, shall not, on account of any interpretation made by them, in the name of the Ambassadors, of a bill, or sealed memorial, being carried in any other place, or on account of any other crime they may have committed, be subject to any arrest, imprisonment, or other punish-

punishment, from the Judges or Governors, without the consent of the Ambassadors or Consuls : but if it shall be discovered that such interpretation shall be a true representation of the Ambassador's words, they shall be set at liberty, and freed from every molestation.

Article XLVI,

That in case of the interpreters die, being an English-born subject, the English shall take possession of his property ; but if he be a native of our dominions, and leave an heir behind him, all his property shall be delivered to the said heir ; but if he leave none, then shall it be delivered to the fiscal.

Article XLVII.

A command being given, that for the future all affairs should be regulated conformably to the above-mentioned orders; another Ambassador came from the King

of England to the sublime Porte, representing, that there had been issued some orders contrary to the august treaty, and that the Judges had exercised their office without paying due attention to the stipulated articles; his Sovereign therefore wished, in order for the before-given commands to be in due force, that any such orders contrary thereto should not in the future be put in execution, but should be regulated according to the several articles of treaty, and no otherwise. This request being presented to the imperial Throne, was received, and, in consequence thereof, an exalted command was issued, that all sublime orders, contrary to the revered treaty, which had been, or should be brought to any of the Judges, shall not by them be put in execution, but that they shall, at all times, be directed by the contents of the revered treaty, granted by my glorious predecessors, which contained clear and distinct articles, annulling any such kind of orders; and therefore, that whoso-

ever

ever produces such shall have his hands cut off.

Sultan Osmad Chan having ascended the Throne of the deceased, (whose tomb may it be surrounded with glory,) another Ambassador from the King of England came and presented a letter with presents, (which were received,) making request that the revered treaty which, by singular justice, had been granted in the august and happy times of my glorious predecessors might be confirmed and renewed; which request was granted; and some time after his august coronation the King of England sent a most conspicuous and noble personage, as Ambassador to my exalted Porte, with a letter and presents, (which were accepted,) soliciting my sincere friendship. The said Ambassador having desired, on the part of his King, a renewal and confirmation of the revered treaty which had been granted in the happy times of my most august and glorious predecessors; and that, likewise, some other important

articles should be added to the former imperial concessions. At his request and intreaty some other necessary articles were registered and confirmed, together with the former august treaty granted in the times of my glorious and august predecessors. These conventions and conditions being made and assented to, an exalted command was given, that they should be observed equally conformable to the revered treaty, and that nothing should be done contrary thereto.

This Ambassador having represented to the most high throne, that in divers places the Governors and Commanders had introduced various inventions and novelties, by which the English merchants and other subjects were molested in their traffic in our dominions, and that in other respects they had acted contrary to the august treaty; he therefore requested a redress of these abuses, by the addition of some other articles to the revered treaty: this was granted, and a sublime command issued, that

that the articles subjoined, should have equal force, and be executed without any interruption whatever.

Article XLVIII.

Among the articles was, that the Corsairs and Pirates of Tunis and Barbary, having molested the merchants and other subjects of the English Kings, as well as others belonging to other Kings in alliance with the sublime Porte, and thereby acted contrary to the revered treaty and my imperial order, by seizing their goods and property, a severe and effectual command was issued, that all goods and property so seized should be immediately restored to their proper owners ; and if, after this command, the Corsairs of Tunis, Algiers, and other parts of Barbary, shall transgress against this august treaty, by molesting, or offering any injury whatever to the above-said merchants, in taking from them their goods and properties, and not restoring them, but carry them to their own country, or any of the maritime

towns in our dominions, particularly to Tunis, Barbary, Modon, Leron, the Beyler-Bey, Governors, and Commanders of the said places, shall, in future, prevent them selling any thing, and immediately send them away.

Article XLIX.

Though it had been stipulated in the treaty, that the Governors and Ministers of Aleppo, and other places in our dominions, should not take any more duty from the English merchants, for the silk which they purchase, than what is expressly mentioned, and what the Venetians and French pay : notwithstanding this, the Commanders of Aleppo have lately made a fresh demand of two and a half per cent., and taken from them their money under the pretence of making them pay duty ; they shall, therefore, make strict and diligent enquiry to find out those from whom money has been thus extorted, that they may be reimbursed ; and in future all duties shall

shall be paid agreeably to the old custom, and according to what is paid by the Venetians and French, without any other innovation being introduced, or farther exaction made even to the amount of an aspre.

Article L.

That the inhabitants of Galata buying merchandises, or other articles, from the abovesaid nation, and paying the duty to the custom-house officer, taking from him a teskere or certificate, and then take the things to their own houses, in order to embark them; in the mean time, if the said officer should die, or be dismissed, and his successor not paying any regard to the teskere or certificate, which the said merchants have in their possession, should molest them, or make fresh demands for the payment of duty, this demand shall not be complied with; but they, having once paid the duty of the customs to the Commissioners for the goods which they have purchased, may make use of their teskere, without

without being subject to any other demand.

Article LI.

That the merchants of the abovesaid nation having once paid duty, and received a *teskere* from the Commissioner for camlets, mohair, and other articles which they had bought at Angora, and thence exported to Constantinople, and other countries in our dominions, and having placed such articles in their own houses, they were again demanded duty; in the future they shall not be thus molested; but if they be desirous of embarking these on board their own ships, the *teskeres* shall be acknowledged true, and shall secure them from all other demands of duty; nor shall the Commissioners have any power to make such demands for those articles, provided no other goods be intermixed, for which no duty had been paid.

Article

Article LII.

That the merchants of the said nation, having once paid duty for the goods which they import to Constantinople, and other places in our dominions, and for other things which they export thence, such as silks, camlets, &c., being obliged, on account of not having found a market for them in that place, to carry them to Smyrna, Scio, and other parts; the Governors or Commissioners of the Custom, on shewing such taskers, may not, under any pretence, demand any farther duty for such merchandises.

Article LIII.

That for the merchandises imported by the merchants of the said nation to Constantinople, and other places in our dominions, and for those which are exported from the said places, the Masdattiagi, or under Officers of the Custom of Calatta and Constantinople, shall be paid, according
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ing to the established rule, for those things so imported or exported; but for those which have not been removed, nothing shall be demanded, it being contrary to the establishment aforesaid; nor in future shall any innovation be made concerning English merchandises, nor shall they dare to demand even an aspre more than usual.

Article LIV.

That the merchants of the above-mentioned nations shall have liberty to come into any of the ports and maritime towns of our dominions, and traffic, without any molestation, in their broad cloths, everlasting, aromatics or spices, tin, lead, and other articles of their manufactures imported by them; and likewise, in other manufactures which they purchase, (except prohibited goods, (and if they be desirous of exporting such, no one shall dare to oppose them; nor shall the Custom-house Officers, or other Ministers, after they have received the duty of the customs agreeable

agreeable to the ancient establishment, and to the tenor of the august treaty, have any other demand on them : concerning this particular affair, distinct and clear articles were made ; so that the Beyler-Beys, and other Commanders, our slaves, the Lieutenants of ports and maritime towns, shall act agreeably thereto, without consenting to any thing contrary to the same.

After this, in the time of my blessed deceased uncle, now in Paradise, the Sultan Murad Chan, (whose tomb may it be always resplendent,) came an Ambassador from the abovesaid King of England, named Sackville Crew, Baronet, with a letter and presents, which were received : his embassy being expired, there was sent to reside in my eminent Porte, another Ambassador in his stead, named Sir Thomas Bendish, with other gifts and presents, together with a letter, declaring his good intentions and true friendship, and representing his sincerity and devotion to us. This said Ambassador brought with him
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the treaty which had already been granted to the English, and prayed, as usual, for a renewal of it, representing at the same time the great losses sustained by the English, on account of the violation of divers of the said articles, namely, that before the English merchants had carried their goods to the custom house, some of the officers, and other persons, were used to go on board their ships, and forcibly compel them to unload, carrying away the most precious and valuable articles before the price was fixed, or the exact value ascertained. The said merchants being desirous of carrying to another place their merchandises, the duties of which had been punctually paid before, they were prevented by the Officers of the Custom, and not suffered to depart without paying over again the duty. Although it was more-over specified in the articles of the treaty, that in case the English should have any law suit, the Justice of the Peace should have no power to judge them without the presence of the Ambassador at Constantinople ;

nople ; notwithstanding this, the Justices, without his knowledge of the said Ambassador, were used to imprison the English, to take away their property, extort money from them, and to practice divers other impositions to which they were continually exposed.

It was likewise registered in the said treary, that no duty should be paid for the cekins and dollars which the English merchants should import, and that no more than three per cent. should be demanded for their merchandise ; the Commissioners of the Customs, however, have taken duty for the cekins and dollars, and have demanded six per cent. for the merchandises imported from Scanderuna and Aleppo. To prevent these impositions, a hat-sheiff, or imperial order was issued ; but notwithstanding this, the English merchants were still molested, and the Commissioners of the Customs still continued to demand a greater price than the merchandises were worth, insomuch, that although it was the custom

custom to charge three per cent. duty, they demanded six, and the servants of the Custom House extorted money under pretence of other smaller expences. Besides this, more Custom-house Officers than usual were put on board the merchants' ships, which occasioned them a great and enormous expence, and was justly considered as a heavy and unjust burden. The Commissioners having made a greater demand for their merchandises than they were worth, and being offered at the rate of three per cent., they were not content, but refused to accept it.

The abovesaid Ambassador having requested that such inconveniences might be prevented, and that a law should be preferred for the better execution of the revered treaty, his requests were presented to the imperial Throne; in consequence whereof a command was given, that the English merchants having paid at the rate of three per cent. for their merchandises, and landing them from their ships, no one should

should have power to demand any more : a command was likewise issued, that the English merchants should not, for the future, be molested, or treated in any manner contrary to the articles of treaty.

Afterwards came another Ambassador from the abovesaid King of England, Lord Ignatio Finch, Governor of the Province of Winchelsea, Viscount of Maidstone, and Baron of Fitzherbert, to reside in the exalted Porte, and brought with him presents, together with a letter, in which the King declared the sincerity of his heart, his true friendship, and cordial devotion to us ; he brought also the treaty with him, and prayed, as usual, for a renewal and confirmation of the most necessary and important articles which were registered in it. His requests being heard, the privileges which he required were granted, among which are the following :

Article LV.

It being registered in the treaty, that the imperial fleets, gallies, and other vessels, being at sea, and meeting any of the English, shall by no means molest or detain them, but suffer them to pass in friendship, without doing them the least loss or injury ; and whereas the said English ships have, in coming from one port to another, been molested by the imperial fleet, and other public ships, and by Captains sailing in our seas, and those of Algiers, Tunis, and Barbary ; and have, under pretence of visiting them, and searching for goods belonging to enemies, taken from them whatever they chose, and prevented them in their voyage : this custom, therefore, shall not be continued any longer at sea, but in castles and ports the usual examination shall be made ; nor shall they be exposed to any molestation, damage, or loss whatever.

Article

Article LVI.

The English Ambassadors having represented, that their merchants having paid duty, had been refused teskeres, or certificates, by the Commissioners of the Customs for the goods for which they had paid, by which injustice the merchants were obliged to pay the said duty over again; for the future the Commissioners shall not defer giving teskeres for the goods for which they have once paid; and if they do not find sale for their goods in one place, they may carry them to another, and by shewing the teskere of the former payment which they have made, they shall be exempted from any farther demand; nor shall they be exposed to any molestation, under pretence of duty, but act conformably to the articles of treaty.

Article LVII.

It being registered in the treaty, that the English merchants, and other subjects,

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according

according to their station, should have liberty to traffic in Aleppo, Gita, and other towns in our dominions, and to pay for their goods according to the usual custom of three per cent., without paying an aspre more; and whereas the Commissioners of the Customs have molested the English merchants, and other subjects, whenever they have brought their merchandise, either by sea or land, to any of the maritime towns or ports, pretending that their merchandises were not English, but foreign goods; and that, as only those from England were to pay three per cent., those brought from Venice and other countries were to pay more; for the future, those articles of the treaty shall be executed, which were before ceded; nor shall the Governors, or other Ministers, permit, or consent to any thing contrary to the same.

Article LVIII.

It is inserted in the treaty, that in case any of the English shall become a debtor, a
bank-

bankrupt, or be accused of any other crime, and shall abscond, the creditor shall still have a claim on the debtor; but if the creditor be not in possession of any legal bond or security, the debt shall not be paid, neither shall the creditor have any claim: but whenever any English merchant, residing in another country, shall have contracted a debt, which he himself is incapable of discharging, but draws a bill on a merchant residing here for the payment of it; and such merchant, on whom the bill is drawn, being a man of credit, and not being indebted in any sum to the drawer, he shall not be obliged to pay it; it being contrary to the sublime law and august treaty to say, that the bill being drawn on him, he ought to honour it, and discharge the debt of the other merchant. But if the said merchant shall accept the bill, he must proceed in the same manner as prescribed in the bill; but if he do not accept it, then no trouble shall be given him.

Article LIX.

That the interpreters of the English Ambassadors having been always free, and exempted from every contribution or exaction, for the future strict attention and respect shall be paid to the agreements of old registered in the treaty; nor shall the fiscals have any power over the property of the interpreters, but in case any of them die, it shall be distributed among their heirs.

Article LX.

That the above-mentioned King, acting in cordial friendship with the sublime Porte, his Ambassador resident in the said Porte shall have ten servants of whatever nation he may chuse, exempted from all kind of taxation.

Article LXI.

That in case any of the English shall turn Turk, and it be proved, that besides
his

his own property, he have that of persons in England, such property shall be taken from him, and delivered to the Ambassador or Consuls, that by their hands it may be sent to its proper owner.

Whereas the Ambassador of the above King, who resided in my sublime Porte, being dead, and there was sent in his stead a Governor of some maritime provinces, a prudent man, named John Finch, Knight, as Ambassador, with a letter and presents, which were presented to my glorious, imperial presence, and accepted; bringing at the same time the imperial and august treaty before granted. At the same time it was represented from the part of the above King, that it was his desire, that, agreeable to former customs, a renewal and confirmation, together with the addition of some other articles, should be granted, and registered in the imperial treaty; among these was one, which contained the illustrious order granted with a hat-sheff, in the happy time of my de-

ceased and most glorious father, Sultan Ibrahim, elected by God in the year 1053 ; upon whom may the benediction and divine mercy remain.

Article LXII.

That every piece of broad cloth, London made, imported in the English ships to Scanderune, shall be charged forty paras, duty ; and every piece of everlasting and kersey, six paras ; every bale of hare skins, and every cantal of tin and lead, according to the weight of Damascus, fifty-seven paras and a half.

Article LXIII.

That in exporting the same goods from Scanderune to Aleppo, the duty of the customs shall be paid at Aleppo, as follows : for every piece of broad cloth, eighty paras ; for those of Perpetuana, or everlasting, eight paras, and two aspres ; for every bale or bundle of hare skins,
eight

eight paras two aspres ; for every weight of Aleppo tin and lead, one para *.

Article LXIV.

That for the merchandise brought by the above-mentioned nation, and exported from Aleppo, the duty to be paid for each bale of raw cloth, of Cordovan, of Chorasan, Hindi or Semezinas, is two rials and a half ; for every bale of cotton yarn, one rial and a quarter ; for every bale of gum, one quarter ; and for every bale of silk, one quarter. For soasmani, rhubarb, and other kinds of drugs, which vary in value, according to the estimation made, duty of three per cent. is to be paid.

Article LXV.

That for goods brought to Scanderune, and thence to be exported, the duty of im-

* A para at that time was worth three farthings, a rial was worth four and six pence, a Turkish rial two and six pence ; but at present the Turkish rial is worth two shillings, and the Spanish five shillings, in Turkey.

port, to be paid for every bale of raw cloth and Cordovan, is one rial and a half ; for every bale of Horosanoo, Hindi, or fine cotton, or thread, three quarters of a rial ; for every bag of gum, one quarter ; for rhubarb, and various other sorts of drugs, after estimation is made, three quarters of a piaſtre ; and for the future, the Commissioners are not to conſent, or permit, to any thing contrary thereto,

Article LXVI.

That all the orders and commands which were iſſued from the Cabinet, againſt the before-mentioned articles, are not to be executed ; but all tranſactions are to be regulated according to the ſaid treaty, and the imperial ſignature.

Article LXVII.

It having been inſerted in the treaty, that the Engliſh merchants are to pay for the goods and merchandiſes which they import

port and export, three per cent. duty, without being obliged to pay an aspre more, and there being some controversies about that affair, the duty thus mentioned, of three per cent., is to be again renewed, and they are to pay the same, neither more nor less.

Article LXVIII.

That the broad cloths of London, and other cloths manufactured in England, either fine or coarse, which are imported to Constantinople and Galata, of whatever price they may be, are to be charged according to the former determination, and conformably to what has been always paid. That a hundred and forty-four aspres are to be taken, computing, eighty aspres to a rial, and seventy to the rial at Lyons, and that no more shall be taken. But the broad cloths of Holland, and other countries, as Sasa, Londrin, Scarlet, and others; are to pay according to the ancient custom; and likewise, agreeable to this, they shall act in
Smyrna.

Smyrna. And that payment being made in Rials or Lyons, the same sum shall be demanded, either for fine or coarse cloths. For every piece of London cloth, and other cloths of England, a hundred and twenty aspres shall be taken, without demanding an aspre more, on any pretence whatever.

Article LXIX.

It is registered in this august treaty, that in case any lawsuit happen with the English, exceeding the sum of four thousand aspres, it is to be decided in my refulgent Porte, and not any other place; but if any of the Governors and Commanders detain any of the English merchants, or others disposed to go in any ship, and take any thing from them, declaring them debtors, and the Consul of that place have given security for him, such lawsuit shall be decided in the imperial Divan or Council; those who have been taken shall be released, and not impeded in their voyage. They who have any demands shall present them to the

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the imperial Divan; which being explained, the Ambaffador fhall answer for thofe who are accused; but provided the Conful did not ftand furety, then the Commander may do as he thinks proper.

Article LXX.

That the Englifh fhips coming to Conftantinople, Scanderune, Smyrna, Cyprus, and other places in our dominions, fhall pay three hundred afpres for anchorage, and not an afpre more fhall be demanded.

Article LXXI.

That in cafe any of the Englifh fhall import merchandife and turn Turk, and it be declared and afcertained by the Ambaffadors or Confuls that fuch merchandifes imported by him belong to the merchants of the country from which he exported them, the whole, together with the ready money, fhall be ftopt, and reftored to the Ambaffador, that by him they
may

may be sent to their proper owners, that they may not sustain such loss; nor shall the Judges or Ministers interpose in order to prevent it.

Article LXXII.

That any of the said nation purchasing, at Angura and Beghbafar, camlets, mohair, and thread of goats hair, and being desirous of exporting them, after having paid the duty of three per cent., no one shall molest them, or impose any farther tax, or exact an aspre more.

Article LXXIII.

That in case any of the English merchants being creditor, and choose to go to law with his debtor, and have need of a Cinasî, or Commissary, from the money which he shall recover he shall pay two per cent. to the same, together with what other rights are usual to the Justice, without any farther exaction whatever.

Article

Article LXXIV.

That the abovesaid King, having been always in friendship with the Sublime Porte, may, in consequence of that friendship, purchase, from Smyrna, Salonikio, and other ports in our dominions, in times of fertility, though not in scarcity, two ship loads of figs and raisins for the use of his own household ; and the duty, at the rate of three per cent. being paid, no one shall oppose their departure.

Article LXXV.

That the English merchants, not only for the silk which they have bought at Brussa and Constantinople, but also for that which comes from Persia and Georgia, and that bought at Smyrna from the Arminians, having not hitherto paid any duty for the weight of it, and it be proved that the public receive no detriment thereby, such rights and duties for the future shall not be paid.

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The before-mentioned Ambaffador having therefore requested that the above articles should be ratified and joined to the former treaty, his request was accepted; and, in the same manner as before, they were ratified according to one of my hatsheriffs, or imperial orders. The former treaty therefore being just and right, has been again renewed by my illustrious command: wherefore, conformable to the imperial signature, I have, by peculiar grace and favour, granted this treaty to be again confirmed, that as long as the said Queen shall constantly persevere in that purity of heart, and sincerity of friendship and affection, testified by King Charles the Second to the sublime Porte in the happy times of my glorious predecessors, so I likewise stand firm in the agreements and promises made, and swear by the unity of the Almighty God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, and of all creatures; that I will not permit any one to act, or do any thing contrary to the terms and agreements made before, as well as in this august treaty.

So

So is, and so shall, implicit faith be given to this imperial seal, made in the middle of the month Gemadiel, in the year of the Hegira, one thousand and eighty six; and in that of Salvation, one thousand six hundred and seventy five.

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LETTER XV.

Philippopolis, June 17, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

IN order to procure time to make my observations, and to view at my leisure this town, I advanced before the caravan, some distance; and as I arrived here early, I prepared to give you an account of my journey, together with a description of this place.

Having left Adrianople about four o'clock in the afternoon, and passed through the western gate, we went over the two bridges, which are across the rivers Arta and Tungia, leaving the latter of these and Maritza on our left hand. About half after four we passed near a hill, on which we saw two men impaled. After this, we came to a well-cultivated plain, which, on both sides of the road, presented

to us great abundance of wheat, barley, and India corn; several vineyards too were dispersed in different parts of the country. In the middle of the road is a fountain; near which, as the weather was very sultry, we stopped to refresh ourselves till about five o'clock. In this plain we continued our journey till nine o'clock, when we halted for the night's repose in a field, at a small distance from the river Maritza, which, in this place, forming several islands, affords a pleasant view to the traveller.

At about half after four in the morning, of the 14th, while the Kiragees were loading their horses, we rode off, and about nine arrived in a village called Mustapha Basfa, containing about forty or fifty houses, inhabited by Turks and Bulgarians. Having staid here for about the space of half an hour, in which time we breakfasted, we proceeded on our journey. As soon as we left this village, we passed over a stone bridge of a hundred yards in length, and

and seven in breadth : this bridge is over the Maritfa, which, in this plain, pursues its course in a very serpentine manner. At half after ten we passed through another village, called the Bifca, in which are about forty huts, inhabited by Bulgarians ; and between eleven and twelve we made a halt for the mid-day's heat. At half after four we proceeded on our journey, and arrived at seven o'clock in the evening at a fountain called Akbolden, which was built about two hundred and twenty years ago by Iwas Basfa ; there is on it an inscription in Turkish characters. Having refreshed ourselves at this place, for about half an hour, we advanced as far as a village called Harmanli, containing about thirty houses, none of which are in any manner worthy of mention, if we except the Han, or Inn, of stone, and covered with lead, built by Sinan Bashaw ; it is divided into large rooms, between which is formed a court yard. There is in this village likewise a mosque, and at the end a bridge, over which we passed ; and having left it, about
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the distance of half a mile, we halted in a field for the night.

The 15th, at about half past four in the morning, we set off, and continued our journey through the most delightful country I ever saw. We were disturb'd in the morning at our usual time by the sweet warbling of the nightingale, and other birds, whose melodious harmony added fresh charms to the country. At ten in the forenoon we came to Ufungiouova, a wretched village, containing about fifty houses, and some huts, inhabited chiefly by highwaymen. While our horses were sent out to graze, we went into a coffee shop to procure some refreshment. In this village is held a fair every year in the month of August, which is frequented by most of the Turkish and Greek merchants.

At eleven in the forenoon we left this place, and rode till one, when we put the horses to graze, and continued till half after

after five, when we came to a small village, called Semislee, containing about forty huts, and a few houses. We rode on till eight o'clock in the evening, when we came to another called Chefwat, and encamped that night in a field at a small distance from it.

In this village I entered into conversation with a priest, with whom I supped at his house. He was a Bulgarian by birth, and could speak no language but his own and a little Turkish. Having spent the evening with him in a very social manner, I retired to our camp for the night's repose.

The Chefwat contains about two hundred and fifty houses, or rather huts, inhabited by Christians. They have no church, but are obliged to go to a town, about the distance of six miles, to hear divine service. The officers of the poll tax oppress the Bulgarian Christians with great violence. Children of eighteen months old
are

are not exempted from this, although it is contrary to the Mahometan law, by which it is ordained that persons are only to pay it after the age of sixteen; but the officers here are not scrupulous in exercising every rigour on the Christians taking the greater advantage of them, as they cannot easily obtain redress from any grievance, being at so great a distance from the Porte, from which alone they can expect protection.

A little after four in the morning of the 16th we left that place, and having crossed a part of the Mount Rhodopus we entered a village called Cayalee, situated in the western plains, which lie between this mountain and that of the mount Hemous, and which are watered by the river Malitza. These plains extend to the westward as far as the Macedonian mountains, which is a hundred miles in length, and about twenty in breadth.

As we descended this mountain, the plains afforded a delightful and extensive prospect,

prospect, which, together with the declivity of the mount Hemous, formed a very pleasing variety. On one hand, villages dispersed over the country ; on the other, well-cultivated land covered with ripe corn, and interspersed with infinite numbers of oak, and other kinds of trees.

Our stay at Cayalee was only while we purchased some provisions. At nine in the forenoon we crossed a river, and left a village called Chardak-kioyou, containing about sixty or seventy huts, on the left hand. Having crossed a second river, we arrived at a village called Yegni Mahallai, which contains about a hundred and forty huts. Having dined here, we repaired to an adjacent field, where we put the horses to graze. We departed from hence about four o'clock, and at six we came to the plains of Pappas Ovascee, or the Priests' Plains ; and in less than an hour after we arrived at Pappas, or the Priests' village, where we stopped to rest ourselves and our horses. The Han, or Inn, is square built, having

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stables

stables on the north side; and on the south, rooms for the travellers. The court yard is twenty-five feet square. It has two gates, one on the east, the other on the west. The village contains about sixty houses and huts, inhabited by Turks and Gipsies, together with a few Bulgarians. Soon after seven we proceeded to the plains of Philippopolis, and in about two hours after we came to the banks of the Maritza, where we discovered a fountain; and then, for about half, we travelled, with the river on our right hand, and the plains on the left; soon after which we lost sight of the river: from this place we directed our way north; and a short time after, having left the river, we stopped in a field for the night's repose. From the above-mentioned fountain all the plains belong to Philippopolis.

The 17th, at four in the morning, we set off, and, as I advanced, I arrived at this city before the rest; and having viewed the greatest part of the town, I sat down to write you this epistle.

The

The situation of this city is pleasant, and charms by the singularity of its appearance. One would think that Nature, desirous of displaying the power of her skill, had collected all the stones from the eastern and western plains, and made a heap of them in the middle of this ; for, during the whole of our descent from the mountains, which I have before mentioned, into the plains of Pappas and Philippopolis, not the least appearance of a rock or stone was to be met with.

The mountain in which this town is built extends from north to south for about three or four miles. It is divided into three heads ; the northern, which is the lowest, is watered by the river Maritza ; the town begins at this part, and extends as far as the declivity of the second, filling the valley formed by those two heads for about two miles, from east to west. On the top of the former are visible the vestiges of an old citadel, which is now turned into dwelling houses. The top of
the

the second is rocky, the valley between which and the southern head is planted with trees, and is likewise rather rocky, though it serves for pasturage to the town and suburbs. The city contains about twenty-six thousand houses, twelve thousand five hundred of which belong to the Greeks, the rest to Turks and Arminians. The suburbs are inhabited by Bulgarians and Arminians; the streets in which the shops are shaded with boards, and paved in the same manner as other Turkish towns. It has a Governor under the Beylerbeys of Sophia.

The river, at a small distance from the town, forms an island, partly cultivated, and partly stocked with trees; over this island, and the two divisions of the river, is a wooden bridge of about a hundred yards long and eight broad. On the other side of the bridge there are about two hundred houses. The Turks have here some mosques, but none worthy of attention; there are five or six churches of the
Greeks,

Greeks, who are not here so much persecuted as in some other parts; for as Philippopolis and Adrianople abound with many considerable merchants, their union renders them formidable to the Turks.

On the western part of the town is a fine grove of lofty trees, which serve as a park for the inhabitants. Provisions of all sorts are here very cheap, and trade is tolerably well conducted. The produce is chiefly corn of all sorts, rice, silk, wool, wine, buffalo's, oxen, sheep, and lamb skins. And now, with this account of my journey from Adrianople, I shall conclude, subscribing myself,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant.

S. L.

LETTER XVI.

Sophia in Bulgaria, June 21, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

AS soon as I arrived here, I prepared myself to give you an account of my journey, and a description of this place.

We departed from Philippopolis, about half past three in the afternoon, and having passed the afore-mentioned wooden bridge, we left the river, the Macedonian mountains, and the western plains, which form so delightful a prospect on our left hand: on our right hand were the northern plains, which are very extensive, and sowed with different kinds of corn, some of which was cut down, and some standing: the fields nearer to the river were sowed with rice, and the whole interspersed with trees of different kinds, make the country bear an agreeable aspect.

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Having

Having advanced, as was our custom, before our caravan, I observed at a distance several heaps of earth, raised up in the form of sugar loaves, and dispersed in different parts of the plains. The singularity of the appearance of these, excited my curiosity to inquire what they meant. I was informed that they were made at different periods, and by different Viziers, in time of war, to pitch the standard of Mahomet, so that the ground might not be defiled by the tread of man or beast.

As we were discoursing concerning this piece of superstitious ignorance, we arrived at Orta Bunar, or the middle spring, from which place the Basargic territories begin. It was then six o'clock in the evening; we alighted to refresh ourselves with some of the water, and to wait for the caravan, but it had halted before that place for the night; it being rather late, we pursued our journey to Besargic, but as it was dark, we lost our way; and wandering about for two hours in marshy ground, we were

very glad at last to find a bridge, near which we continued till day break.

The 18th, at two in the morning, we mounted our horses, and directed our road to Basargic, and at four arrived there. Having given my horse to the hangi, or innkeeper, I lay down to repose myself till six o'clock, at which time I rose and walked out to observe the place.

This town is situated in the midst of a plain country; on the north west is the river Maritza, and at the extremities of the plains towards the north, is the mountain Hemous; and on the west and south, those of Macedonia. It is inhabited by Turks, Greeks, and Bulgarians, and it contains about three thousand houses. Most of the iron which comes from Samacove, a province of Macedonia, is sent here, and from hence to different markets of Thrace. There are sometimes found here old coins; but the people, fearful of offending government, melt them down: I purchased a few brass ones,

ones, most of which have Greek inscriptions. The markets are well supplied with all kinds of commodities, and the hans are seldom empty of merchants.

The produce of this country does not consist in iron only, there is likewise a manufactory for yellow leather or morocco. The rice of this country is better and in greater quantity than at Philippopolis. Provisions of all sorts are cheap; there is great plenty of fish, with which they are supplied by the river. The Greeks have here two churches; the Turks, too, have their mosques, but none of them are worthy of notice. The houses are built of bricks, and the streets are tolerably well paved, and of a good breadth.

We left this town about four o'clock in the afternoon, and having rode for four miles, we crossed a small river which falls into the Maritsa, near Basargic; having travelled till seven, we halted for our night's repose in a field not far from the

banks of the Maritza, where our rest proved very disagreeable, as it rained the greatest part of the night.

At two o'clock in the morning of the 19th, we set off from thence, and travelling northward till three, we past through a Bulgarian village, called Mushula, and at five we began to ascend Mount Hemous, at the foot of which is a valley of about three quarters of a mile broad, which contains a village of about two hundred houses, inhabited by Bulgarians, through which we passed. The situation of this village is very pleasant, and formed in such a manner as to afford a little garden, with fruit trees, to almost every house or cottage, together with pasturage for their cattle. The ascent from this valley, which gradually diminishes in breadth, is easy; and if the roads were kept in good repair, a coach might move without being subject to any inconvenience. The traveller is here presented with the most pleasing prospect; trees of different sizes on all parts present themselves

themselves to his view, and he is saluted on all sides with the agreeable singing of birds, and murmuring of brooks. In this pleasant scene of rural nature, we travelled for about three miles, where the division of the mountain again joins, except a little brook of six or eight feet broad, on the left hand of the road which continues the separation.

At six o'clock we arrived at Isargic, a small village in the middle of this mountain. From this place, in the time of the Christian emperors of Constantinople, there was a thick wall, extending across the mountain, in order to guard against the ravages of the Bulgarians; but now almost the whole is demolished, except some few remains which are still discovered in the middle, of about twenty feet in height, and thirty feet thick. From these vestiges to about fifty yards north, stands the present isargic, or little castle.

The first object which presented itself

to us on our entrance of the town, was a coffee house, where, having put our horses in the stable, we staid to breakfast. Adjacent to this house was a very fine garden, with fruit trees and flowers, in which I plucked some roses, which I preserve as a present to you if I have the happiness of once more arriving in England.

Having taken refreshment in this coffee house, I went out to make my observations on the town. On the right hand of the road is another stable, and adjacent to it is what they call the castle, which contains about an hundred and fifty houses, together with that of the governor, in which he resides with his family. From this place is an extensive prospect, delightfully pleasant, for all the before-mentioned plains, towns, and villages, together with the river, are presented at one view.

In this place we staid till the caravan passed ; it was a quarter before nine in the morning, when we continued our travelling

ling on this mountain till near eleven, when we arrived at the gate of Adrianous, in which there are guards, and about twenty Bulgarian families, who dwell in huts. The women and girls here brought us out some strawberries, of which we bought two large plates full for three paras.

About a quarter of a mile distant on the left hand of the road we, discovered a field, where we alighted to rest ourselves, but we had not continued above an hour, when it began to rain very hard. All the passengers found themselves in a very uncomfortable situation, except me, who by my umbrella, which had rendered me such essential services before, defended myself now from this inconvenience : the rest were all wet to the skin, and the rain continuing till five o'clock, we could proceed no farther, but remained here all night.

When the rain had ceased, I walked as far as the gate to make some observations ; on the base of it, northward, to the left hand,

hand, is a piece of marble, on which was a Latin inscription, but so defaced by time, and the grass which had grown over it, that I could not make out any more than two initial letters, D and N, with two dots between them, and the name Ualis; by which probably is meant that it was repaired by D. N. Ualis, emperor of Constantinople. Formerly there was a wall across the mountain, in the middle of which was this gate, built of bricks, for the mountain does not afford any quarries, of about twenty yards in height, and six in breadth; the wall which supports this gate is about three yards thick.

From this place I had a fine view of all the western vallies, most of which are well cultivated; the woods about produce great quantities of strawberries and flowers of different sorts, and afford good pasturage.

By the fatigues of this day's journey and my frequent perambulations, I began to find myself much wearied, and inclined
to

to make a hearty meal, but should have run the risque of going with a very craving appetite had not I luckily met with a hut inhabited by an elderly civil kind of a woman, whom I desired to provide me a little supper, with which she complied; and after having made a good repast, for which I paid a very moderate price, I retired to my camp, where, on account of the dampness of the ground, occasioned by the rain, I passed a very uncomfortable night.

At four o'clock in the morning of the 20th, we set off, leaving the caravan behind us; about five, we saw ourselves in the plains of Icktiman, and crossing a wooden bridge at half after six, we arrived at the town of Icktiman, where we alighted, and enjoyed our breakfast till the caravan arrived. The Turks inhabit almost all the houses in this town, which contains about two hundred, except a few Bulgarian Christians. In the plains round about this town are ten more villages, three of which are occupied by Bulgarians, the rest by

by Turks entirely ; all of these are dependant on Icktiman, which is governed by two Beys. At eight o'clock the caravan passed, when we began to prepare for our journey ; and at nine we passed a narrow passage, after having crossed a small river called Vaccarelli. The places about here are reckoned very dangerous, as the woods are much infested with banditti of robbers, but, however, we had the good fortune to pass without meeting with any interruption or molestation, and continuing our journey, we began to ascend a hill, from which we were presented with the most pleasing views. In the midst of the hills with which this country abounds, is a small plain, the ascent from which to each being easy, they are well cultivated even to the very top, which, with a few vineyards, and trees of various kinds being dispersed, wear the most agreeable aspect. On the top of one of the hills towards the eastern part, I saw a village, amongst the houses of which, was one longer than the rest, whose gardens and park was in such regular

regular order, that I thought it was inhabited by some European. The Bulgarians are the most industrious people in this part of the world; in the cultivation of their lands they are indefatigable, and train up their girls in the same laborious occupations as themselves. In my way from Philippopolis, I met several companies of these girls, from about twenty to forty in each company, going from Sophia to the above place and Basargic, conducted by an overseer, to whom they were hired, in order to reap the corn of those countries. Their dress is a long linen robe, hanging down to the feet; the sleeves and breast of which are embroidered; over this they wear a loose worsted gown, or doublet, with half sleeves reaching below the knees, and tied round the waist with a girdle. Their hair is plaited in several plaits, interwoven with worsted of the same colour, and hangs over their shoulders and down their backs. Some of them wear caps ornamented with small silver medals, and some of them go bareheaded. Though they go to so great a distance

a distance from their own homes, yet they never fear any insult from the men, who might be tempted often to injure them, from the beauty and simplicity they possess, were not the laws so severe as to punish any such outrage with immediate death, whether committed by Christian or Turk. When they arrive at the fields, the corn of which they are hired to reap, the lady of the manor provides for them victuals, drink, and other necessary things. The reaping over, they are treated with a sumptuous feast, which being done, they accompany the lady to her own house with songs and dances, after having presented her with garlands of different flowers. This ceremony being over, the lady makes each of them a small present, and the overseer having paid them, conducts them back again to the place at which he hired them.

The day being very sultry, at noon we stopped in a field, where we remained till five o'clock, when we rode off for Yegni Han,

Han, and arrived there about seven, when I took up my lodgings at a Bulgarian house. In this village are about forty Turkish houses, and sixty huts, inhabited by Bulgarians, who are here heavily oppressed by the Turks, and compelled to work like slaves.

The next morning when I rose, though it was not later than four o'clock, I found that the Turkish travellers had departed, so that I was forced to set off by myself; I had not occasion to ride long alone, for I speedily overtook them, and perceiving Sophia before me, I left them in my turn behind me, and advancing, I arrived at that place about eight o'clock.

Sophia is situated on a hilly ground, which almost furrounds the western plains, the ascent to which is so easy and gradual, as scarcely to be discerned by any one who walks up. On each side of the town is a river, one to the west, and the other to the east; from which commence extensive plains,

plains, gradually rising as far as the eye can reach. Sophia, situated in so charming a spot, cannot but enjoy a very salubrious air: it extends, from north to south, about three miles, and is in breadth about two. The houses and streets are similar to those which I have described in Adrianople, and other towns of the Turkish dominions, in former letters. The hans, or inns, are most of them built of stone, as likewise the besestain, or merchants market. Some of the mosques are likewise built of stone, and worthy of notice. The bazars, or markets, are well supplied with plenty of commodities and provisions of all sorts, remarkably cheap.

The houses of this city are eight thousand in number, one thousand of which are inhabited by Christians, who have five churches. To the west of this city is a mountain, called by the Turks Witush; on the top of which are plains, abounding with various kinds of fragrant plants; there is likewise a gold mine, but it is not
worked

worked. The master of the inn in which I was, a very sensible man, told me that that spot during the summer was like a garden, and therefore bore the name of the King's Garden. He showed me an amethyst, and a white sapphire, which had been washed down by the rain from the mountains: several different kinds of precious stones are often picked up by the people of the country, who are afraid of discovering it, lest Government should compel them to work in search of them. This Turk with whom I entered into conversation, had travelled into Europe, and entertained a great partiality for all foreigners. I was here in company with some military officers who were sent with troops against the rebel Mahamut Bashaw of Scutari, but who were forced to return, as the Porte had granted him a pardon.

The Governor of this place is a Beyler Bey (or Prince of Princes) of which there

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are

are but four in all Turkey; one in Europe, and three in Asia; his name is Abdi Bashaw, a celebrated character, who was formerly Bashaw in Asia, or Syria; at that time the Porte sent a Capugi, with a Ferman to cut off his head; but the Bashaw, instead of submitting to that punishment, cut off the Capugi's head; three other Capugis were afterwards sent, all of whom he served in the same manner. He afterwards obtained his pardon from the Porte, and was sent Beyler Bey to this place: he is a Georgian by birth; a man of about sixty four years of age. He is now rebuilding his palace which was burnt down some time since. The Turks here stand in great awe of him, and pay him great respect; for Abdi spares none of them, but punishes with the greatest rigour any of them guilty of the smallest offence.

Permit me, now, to conclude my description of this place, and of my journey,

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ney, till I arrive at Nifi, when I shall
again resume the course of my narration.
I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,

S. L.

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LETTER XVII

Nhi in Myfia, June 24, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

CONFORMABLY to the promise with which I concluded my last, I now proceed to continue the account of my journey from Sophia to this place. We left that town about half past four in the afternoon. and directed our route over the plains of Sophia, which extend westward as far as the declivity of the mountain, for three miles, interspersed with several little hills. The fields on all sides are mostly kept for hay, of which a great quantity is produced by the natural fertility of the soil.

Having passed the night in a field, the next morning about four we again set off; and at seven crossed the river Isca, over a wooden bridge of about two hundred
 1 yards

yards in length, and six in breadth, which brought us to a village called Urubla; from this time till about ten, we continued our journey through a delightful extent of well-cultivated country; and we were sufficiently employed in admiring its beauties, till we arrived at a village called Halcali, divided into two parts by a small river; on one side of which are about thirty houses, and on the other, as many Bulgarian huts. In this place I met with some refreshment, and reposed myself till the departure of the caravan, which was at two o'clock, when we began to remove from the pleasant plains of Halcali. At four o'clock we began to ascend a mountain, which, when we had crossed, brought us to some plains of about five miles in extent, between it and Norden. As we travelled over these, we discovered at a distance, towards the north of the mountain, two small villages, containing about two hundred houses and huts; but an object still more agreeable, was a pleasant fountain in the midst of these plains, the water of

which was very acceptable in allaying the thirst occasioned by the heat.

Having sufficiently refreshed ourselves at this fountain, we prepared to descend into the Dragoman Derefi, or Dragoman's River; the most dangerous passage we had hitherto met with, on account of the great number of thieves with which those places are infested. As it was our custom always to advance before the caravan, we now took, as our guide, the Kiragee Demetrius; and I, with the Kadee and his Tartar, travelled in a narrow valley of about twenty yards broad; one side of which is occupied by a river, by which in many parts it is entirely overflowed. On both sides of this valley is a very high, rugged mountain, which produces trees and bushes that serve for pasturage to the goats.

In the middle of this romantic valley, in which we travelled for near an hour and a half, I discovered a marble fountain, on
 2 which

which was an Illiric inscription; the waters of it were as clear as crystal: at length, we came to an open ground, soon after which we entered the plains of Sarybrut, which were sowed with rice, Indian corn, and rye; and about half past eight we entered the town. Sarybrut is situated in a valley; has a river on the north side, together with a fountain of two spouts, the water of which is very good; it contains about thirty Turkish, and sixty Bulgarian houses, and has a fortification of palisades for the Governor, and a few officers: there are two coffee houses, and two hans; the former of which are the lodgings usually occupied by travellers and merchants, and the latter by the lower sort of people,

The next morning, being the 23d, at about four o'clock we directed our journey through the plains, and at six we observed the town of Sharkiyou, situated in a flat country; it has a castle, and near to it there passes a river. At half after nine

we arrived at a village called Plato, inhabited by Christians ; containing about sixty huts, together with two hans ; we alighted here to get a little refreshment.

At one o'clock we directed our way to Acpalanga, or the white town ; and having crossed a river at about three miles distance, we began to ascend a mountain not less than the great Balgam, or Mount Hemous, though not so high. From this mountain, the most beautiful prospect was presented to our view ; on whatever side we directed our sight, the most variegated scenes were displayed ; towards the west were seen numberless mountains, whose various appearances formed subjects for contemplation ; to the south, infinite hills intermixed with fruitful valleys, villages, and plains, through many of which flowed the rivulets which fall from the mountains ; and the whole country about planted with pear, walnut, and other kinds of fruit trees, the whole together forming the most enchanting confusion.

On

On the east, lofty trees, planted on high mountains, the declivities of which were rendered delightful by the excellence of their culture; and on the north, hills, and valleys equally well cultivated, in many of which the rivers which flowed added to the beauty of the scene. In several parts of the mountains on which we travelled, we saw wild pear trees, walnut, and other kinds of fruit trees in great abundance: the road was smooth, and very seldom was a stone to be seen.

We travelled on this mountain till about four o'clock, and then we descended into the plains of Myfia, which are surrounded by mountains; and about five we arrived at Acpalanga, where we alighted and passed the night, the former part of which I employed in viewing the town.

Acpalanga is situated near the mountain Scardus, which it has on the west and south; and on the east, the aforesaid plains. By the ruins which still remain,
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it app

ears to have been formerly a very large town; several parts of the wall of an old castle, and other remains are still visible; the present castle is square, and has a garrison of about thirty janizaries. The whole town contains about thirty Turkish houses, and twenty Christian huts; it has a coffee house, two hans, and some shops for provisions. There are several marble pedestals in the town, with Latin inscriptions, but most of them are so effaced with age, that they were not legible; one, however, more clear than the rest, I saw in the street, the inscription of which, written in Latin characters, was

Pro C. R. P. Joancio fausto procurat.
P. R. P. R.

The master of the coffee house told me, that there were several other stones with inscriptions on them, in the castle.

This town has three small rivers; the
southern-

southernmost proceeds from the bottom of a rocky hill, the water of which is at all times very clear; the merchants send their cotton yarn here to be bleached; it is about sixty yards distant from the town, and falls into another river which is the second, and flows close to the town, the water of which is very thick; there is a wooden bridge over it which leads into the town; the third is a branch of the second, and passes through the town, close by the walls of the old castle; there is likewise over this a wooden bridge. About two hundred yards from the town, these rivers join, and then fall into the river Nishova, which comes from the eastern mountains, and waters all the aforefaid plains; and passing near this town, runs through the city of Nisi, and two miles north of that, of Morava. The river Nishova abounds with great quantities of fish of various kinds. Cherries are in such great plenty in this place, that I bought four occas for three paras; wine is likewise very cheap here, and of a very good flavour.

The

The next morning, at four o'clock, we proceeded on our journey towards Nisi, having on our right hand, the river Nishova; and on our left, the mountain: at half after five we crossed a river which falls into the Nishova, and then began to ascend the Kezil Dagg, the ancient Condos, or Red Mountain, on which we travelled till half past ten, at which time we descended into the plains of Bagnio; where, when we arrived, ascending a little eminence on the left side of the road, we alighted, and leaving our horses to graze, we went to see the mineral waters, a very ancient bath; it is divided into two rooms, one for the women, over the door of which is an inscription in Latin characters: this room I could not see, because some Turkish ladies were bathing there; I went to visit the larger room where the men bathed. It is built of stone, and perfectly round, about twelve yards in diameter, the basin of which occupies ten; in the walls round about, are some arched places for seats, and for them who bathe

bathe to lay their clothes. The bason is about ten feet deep, the water is lukewarm, in great abundance, and very clear. The stones of the bason, near the two spouts, are covered with verdigrease, which makes me think that the water is copperish. As I was taking a view of the outside of the room, I saw several Turkish boys amusing themselves with killing snakes, which were in the broken places of the wall in great abundance, attracted, as I suppose, by the heat of the place. About thirty yards distant from the bath, is a coffee-house, in which I entered to get a little refreshment, and to wait for the Cadee who staid behind to bathe. Bagnio stands near the road, is about a quarter of a mile distant from the bath; and contains about twenty houses inhabited by Turks.

At a quarter before noon we mounted our horses, and descending the hill, we regained the road, and continuing our journey through the plains of Nisi, we
arrived

arrived there about one o'clock, where I alighted at a house usually resorted to by all foreign merchants; and as we are to wait here for the caravan, I suppose we shall not depart for these three days for Belgrade. I shall finish this for the present, and in my next from this place, shall give you a description of the town. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,

S. L.

LET-

LETTER XVIII.

Nisi or Myfia, in Sorsia, June 26th, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

AS my last concluded with an account of my journey to this city, I shall begin this with a description of its situation and extent. Nisi is situated in a plain country; and the river Nishova passing through, separates the town from the castle. On the east side of it there are several hills, although at a considerable distance; on the west, it has the mountains of Servia or Scardons, and the river Morava, which takes its rise from those mountains. The city is divided into three parts, and extends from east to west. The eastern part forms the castle, of a square form, and well fortified with double ramparts, one of which is built of stone; and between it and the second, which is raised of earth,

is a ditch of about eighteen feet broad, the communication between the castle and city is by a draw-bridge, over the river Nishova, which is here about sixteen yards broad, and very rapid. In the castle lives the Bashaw General of the Janisaries, together with a strong garrison. Owing to the disturbances which prevailed in the garrison, I could not enter the castle. The Turks, who in this town are all Janisaries, have taken arms against the Albanians, whom they forced to abscond; these having strengthened themselves, only wait for a favourable opportunity, viz. the decrease of the Morava, when it becomes fordable, to exercise their revenge on the victorious party. Almost all the inhabitants are in a very miserable situation on account of these disputes.

The second part which forms the city, lies to the west of the castle, on the other side of the Nishova; it is surrounded by a palisade and a ditch, and is inhabited by Turks and Jews: and the third part
which

which lies west of the other two, are the suburbs.

The houses and streets in this city are similar to those of other Turkish towns. The inhabitants are mostly Turks, the rest are Bulgarian Christians, and some Arminians and Jews. The number of houses in all the three divisions is about six thousand; seven hundred only of which are inhabited by Christians. The streets in this town are very dirty, and the shops small.

The Turks here pay very little respect to the orders of the Porte; each man is armed with a brace of pistols and a dagger, besides the cartouch box which is tied in his waist. The Turkish mosques are very mean buildings. The Christians have but one church, and they are much oppressed by the Turks, by whom they are forced to do whatever they please. There are fourteen hanns in this city, seven of which belong to the Christians, and the

other seven to the Turks. The country round about is very fertile and pleasant ; provisions are moderately cheap, and in a word, nothing is wanting but a regular government to render this a very flourishing town. I find nothing here remarkable to entertain your curiosity, therefore shall conclude, subscribing myself,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,

S. L.

LET-

LETTER XIX.

Belgrade in Servia, July 4, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

I ARRIVED here yesterday, after a long and fatiguing journey of near eight days, and took up my lodgings at an inn where the Consul of the Greek merchants resides. Previous to my description of this place, I shall, as usual, give you some account of my journey here.—

At three o'clock in the afternoon of June 26th we left Nisi, directing our way to the north of the city; on both sides of the road, for some distance, were corn fields, sowed with wheat. We travelled till nine o'clock at night, when we came to a bridge, on the other side of which we alighted on a little hill, about a quarter of a mile distant from a village, to repose,

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but

but as it began to rain, we passed but a very disagreeable night.

The next morning at four o'clock, we began our journey through a very fine country, and at nine came to a town called Alexinitza, containing two hundred houses inhabited by Turks and Christians; it is pleasantly situated on a river called Morawitza. This town has a Governor, who resides in a place surrounded with a palisade, and serves as a castle. We staid here to dine, soon after which we departed, and travelled till half after ten, when we halted for the noon. Soon after it began to rain very hard; so that about one o'clock, three Christian merchants and I, who were going from Nisi to Belgrade (for the Turkish merchants had set off two days before us) left the caravan, and travelled till four o'clock, when we arrived at a town or palanga, called by the Turks, Rashna, containing about two hundred Turkish houses, and a few Bulgarian

garian huts ; it has also a Governor. We alighted here for the night's repose.

The next day, being the 28th, at four in the morning we left this place, and travelling till eleven, we arrived at a palanga, called Parakin, where we alighted for the mid-day's repose. This town is pleasantly situated on a river called Cernitza which passes through it, and enjoys a pure air. It contains about two hundred houses, inhabited by Turks, together with a few Bulgarian Huts. It has likewise a Governor and a Kadee. At one o'clock we set off from there for the town of Kiupri or Bridge, and after travelling through several meadows and forests, we arrived there at seven in the evening ; and after having taken some refreshment, I went out to view the place.

This town is situated to the south of the river Morova, and though but small is very pleasant. It contains about two

Q 3

hundred

hundred Turkish, and thirty Christian houses, most of which have gardens behind them, planted with fruit trees of different kinds. There is a citadel in it, the walls of which are made of earth; there are four hanns, to each of which there is a coffee house; the best of which is that nearest the bridge. Kiupri has also a Governor and Kadee.

The bridge over the Morova, is the best I ever saw in Turkey, it is built of wood, and kept constantly in good repair; the expence attending which is defrayed by a toll of five paras paid for every horse that goes over. The bridge is about two hundred and fifty yards in length, and about six broad. Provisions in Kiupri are likewise very moderate.

The caravan followed by us, passed the bridge the next morning about five, and at eight we arrived at a town called Yacodina, where we alighted to breakfast. This town which contains about a hundred

dred and eighty Turkish, and twenty Christian houses, is likewise under the command of a Governor and Kadée : when I had staid here about a quarter of an hour I rode after the caravan which had advanced before me. Having halted from ten to three, we set off, and travelling till six in the evening, through meadows and muddy forests, which had been rendered very disagreeable by the rain, we arrived at a village called Bagurdon, containing twenty houses and about as many Bulgarian cottages. While the caravan advanced to find a convenient place for the night's rest, I staid to get some supper, after which I went after it and overtook it in a field about two miles distant, where we lay down to repose.

We mounted our horses the next morning at four, and travelled till eight through a very muddy mountainous forest, when we arrived at a village called Batichica, the most disagreeable place I saw in all Turkey ; it is situated quite in

a bog, and so deep was the mud, that it was with the greatest difficulty the horses could pass, and even some of the merchants could not advance without assistance. There are in it, about twenty Turkish houses, and a few Bulgarian cottages, two hanns, a coffee house, and two baker's shops. We left this place about ten, and at three miles distance from here we halted in a field during the mid-day. Half after three we began our journey through a forest full of stately oaks, of a prodigious height, the greatest part of whose leaves were devoured by the worms; in this forest many herds of swine are kept. At last we came to a village called Rashna, containing a few Christian houses, a Turkish coffee house, two hanns, and a baker's shop, about a mile distant from which we halted for the night. I cannot here entertain you with the description of a well-cultivated country, for the whole way is only one continued forest which reaches nearly as far as Belgrade.

July

July the first at about half past four in the morning, we began our day's journey through a continuation of the same muddy forests, and having travelled four hours, we arrived at the town of Haffan Bashaw, which contains about a hundred Turkish houses, five or six coffee houses, as many hannels, four baker's shops, and about thirty retail shops, kept by Christians and Jews, for in all the palanga's or towns these kind of shops are mostly kept by them. I staid here till about ten, when I was forced to have recourse to a baker's shop for some refreshment; for it being then Ramazan time, or fast, none of the coffee houses would afford any entertainment to travellers. Soon after I followed the caravan, which I found encamped in a field about three miles distant, where we stayed till half after four. The road being very heavy, the horses could not advance so fast as before, nor make such long stages, so that now we were forced to shorten our journeys. I advanced before, accompanied by an Albanian traveller,

ler, who came from Constantinople on foot; he was well armed, and kept close to me as a guard.

We now began to enter a forest more pleasant and agreeable than the others through which we had passed. The road was dry, and the pleasure of our journey was heightened by the melodious harmony of birds, which seemed joyfully to announce the return of fine weather. One of these feathered songsters, more beautiful than the rest, in a particular manner attracted my notice; the size of it was about that of a starling; the body was covered with blue feathers of a shining hue; the neck, wings, and tail, yellow, interspersed with red and blue; the beak and legs were red; it imitates the notes of several other birds. I was told that the name of it was Floro, and very difficult to be caught. We proceeded on our journey till we came to a guard house, in which some Janisaries are stationed for the defence of the roads. In this place I stopped for supper,

supper, soon after which we halted in a field for the night.

The next morning, being July 2d. at half after four o'clock, we set off from here, and at half past seven, we came to a palanga, called Collary, containing about sixty houses, inhabited by Turks and Christians, together with hanns, coffee houses, and shops. Having breakfasted at this place, I rode after the caravan, which I let advance, and travelling till nine, we halted as usual for the noon's repose. At two o'clock we set off for Isargic, directing our way through a wood; at five we passed a guard house, and at six descended a hill, and rode on the banks of the Danube till seven, at which time we entered the town of Isargic, or little castle, where I staid for a little refreshment while the caravan went forward to encamp.

This town is situated on a hill, about three hundred yards west of the Danube; a small river passes through it, over which
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is a stone bridge. It contains about a hundred Turkish, and fifty Christian houses, besides hanns, coffee houses, and shops; it has a place surrounded with pallisades, which serves as a castle, together with some gardens. The river Danube here forms a large island towards the east, about seven miles in circumference, part of which is cultivated, the rest is woody.

The next morning at the usual time of half past four, we again set off, having been well washed by the heavy rain which had fallen during the night. In the frequent showers to which we were exposed, my situation was rather more comfortable than that of my fellow travellers; being sheltered by my umbrella which had frequently befriended me on the road; though I never passed through a Turkish town without exciting the astonishment of all the inhabitants, and was generally saluted with the envious cry of "See the Infidel, he carries a tent over his head."

At

At six we passed by a hilly wood, near the palanga Bolic, which contains about twenty houses inhabited by Turks and Christians. At ten we were in sight of Belgrade, and leaving now behind us the woods and forests, we travelled over even and well cultivated hills, in descending one of which, we met with a fountain elegantly built, opposite to an extensive beautiful valley. On the other side of the hill we came to a German camp, the works of which were made of earth, and surrounded with a ditch of near two miles in circumference. From this place I had a delightful prospect of the country round about, and the rivers Sava and Danube, which form here several different islands. At length we arrived at Belgrade, about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. As I shall stay here two or three days, I will in my next from this place, give you a short description of this city. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant.

S. L.

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LETTER XX.

Belgrade or Taurunum, July 6, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

BELGRADE is situated on the banks of the rivers Sava and Danube, extending from west north west, to east south east, rather more than a mile, and forms the shape of a pyramid. The western part of the town, which stands on an eminence, contains the castle, on the southern part of which are the Christian quarters. This castle is built on a rock, and is separated from the town by an out wall, and two ditches about fifteen yards distant from each other, which are always filled with water, and contain great quantities of fish; the space between them is formed into gardens, producing all kinds of vegetables, and planted with fruit trees of various sorts.

The walls of the castle, and the sides of
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the ditches over each of which is a wooden draw bridge, are of stone. On the outside of the wall is a large open place of about twenty-six yards broad, on all sides, except on the northern part, which is encompassed by the above-said rivers, which join on the north-west corner of the castle. In the citadel the Bashaw and his retinue reside; and on the outside of it, in the castle, are houses of several of the chief men in the town; in the enclosure of the outer wall, to the north west, is that of the Janilarigas (or general of the Janisaries) together with their barracks or quarters; and on the north is the magazine of arms and ammunition; on the outside of which is a large paved place, where are heaped up many hundreds of bomb shells of different sizes. On this side there is likewise a gate towards the river, on the outside of which, along the wall, is a palisade. The ramparts and bastions of this wall, as well as of the citadel, are mounted with brass cannon, from six to twelve pounders each. The gates of the castle are four in number, one
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to the north, two to the east, and one to the west south west; the whole town, which has several gates, is surrounded by a pallisade.

Belgrade contains seventeen Turkish parishes, some of an hundred, and others of an hundred and fifty houses each. The Turks are here divided into two parties, agitated with such jealousies to each other, that they sometimes come to blows. Very little attention is paid to the orders of the Porte, or to the Bashaw, or governor established here, as most of the inhabitants are Janisaries, and armed as I mentioned before, like them in Nisi.

The Christians have their metropolitan, a native of Constantinople, sent here by the patriarch of that place. He is a man learned in several languages, and of an exemplary and pious life; I had yesterday the honour of dining at his house. As his flock are mostly Bulgarians, he in a short time studied the Illyric, in which language
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he always preaches to them. The Christians, as well as the prelate himself, who is forced to be responsible for his flock, are heavily oppressed by the Turks. They have but one church, and about three or four hundred houses.

I must inform you, that this diocese, as well as that of Nisi, were formerly under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Ipekium, who was an independent Prelate, and called the Archbishop of the second Justiniana; but as he was unable to support the dignity of the archbishoprick, on account of the heavy taxations imposed by the Porte and the Turks, it was lately, by a Topical Council, submitted to the See of Constantinople; and the patriarch of that place is now obliged to defray all those expences, and send a prelate from his own jurisdiction.

The streets in Belgrade are cleaner and better paved than any of the towns in Turkey. The shops and the markets are

to the east of the town, as also the custom house, and the inns for the merchants, which are built of stone, and were formerly, when the city was inhabited by Christians, the seats of noblemen. Trade is carried on here with spirit by the Greek merchants, and some few Turks, who send their merchandizes to Hungary, and from thence to Austria, by the river Danube; and import the produce and different manufactures of those countries. The Emperor derives great advantages from this trade; and Semblin is much benefited of late, by the privileges granted by him to the Greeks, and by his taking off the quarantine.

The air of this country is very salubrious, though greatly infested with gnats, which are very troublesome to the inhabitants. Provisions are in great plenty, and very reasonable. Some of the Turkish merchants here are very civil to strangers, and wish to converse with them about politics.

This

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This afternoon I intend crossing the water for Semblin, from which place I shall continue my account of my journey. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,

L. S.

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LETTER XXI.

Sembliu or Sirmium, July 7, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

I ARRIVED at this place yesterday, and after having been examined myself, together with my apparel, by the physicians of the quarantine, I was received by a gentleman, a native of Smyrna, who accommodated me, because the inns were occupied by the attendants of the Emperor, who is expected every hour to visit this city, and see the improvements which have lately been made in it.

This town is situated partly on the plains, and partly on the declivity of a large hill, extending from east to south, and forms a semicircle, which begins at the banks of the Danube, and ends at the river Sava, continuing for seven miles in length ; and is planted with vineyards

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and different kinds of fruit trees. The town contains about a thousand houses; it has the river Danube close to the eastern part of it, and on the north and north west, the above hill, which has two cuts, and in which are placed gates, guarded by soldiers; the rest of the hill serves as a wall to a part of the town, the other part of which is surrounded by a palisade, as is likewise the place where they perform the quarantine.

On the eastern part of this hill is a Roman citadel, of a hundred and five yards in circumference, built in a square form, of brick and stones. On each of the corners of this citadel is a cistern of about eighty feet in circumference, and the height of the walls by which it is surrounded is sixteen feet, and about ten feet thick. From this citadel the traveller is presented with an extensive view of all parts of the country.

Most of the houses in this town have

gardens to them ; but those of the Greek merchants are by far the best. The custom house, which is new, is a very regular building ; and the academy for the study of polite literature, erected at the Emperor's own expence, which is not quite finished, will, when completed, be a very commodious one. The Christians of the Greek persuasion, have here two churches modern built, which make a very beautiful appearance ; they have likewise a third in the place of the quarantine, called Lazaretto. Those of the Romish persuasion have the same number, but only one of them is worthy of notice.

The whole circumference of this town is about two miles ; the streets are commodious, and planted on both sides with mulberry trees, but not being paved, after rain, they are very dirty and muddy. The situation of the town is very pleasant, and the air salubrious, but the inhabitants are much troubled with mosche-

tos.

tos. Provisions, but especially fish, are in great plenty, and at a moderate price; though the water is not very good.

About noon to-day the Emperor entered this town, attended by a few officers, among whom was General Brown; and to-morrow early he sets off for Peter-Waradin, and thence to Demish-War. The 10th inst. I expect to leave this place, till then permit me to subscribe myself

Your humble servant,

L. S.

LETTER XXII.

Peter-Waradin—anciently Acimincum Legio, July 13th, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

I LEFT Semblin the 12th instant at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, after having hired a cart with three horses for myself and my baggage, for that is the usual method of travelling in these countries. The road on which our journey lay, had on the right hand the river Danube at about a quarter of a mile distant, and on the left, an extensive open country interspersed with some villages, the steeples of whose churches formed a very pleasing appearance. At one we passed through one of those villages called Badonitza, containing about two hundred houses, with a church and a pretty large steeple, resorted to by those of the Greek persuasion. The roads through this vil-
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lage, which cross each other, are on each side planted with mulberry trees, by the Emperor's order, for the sake of breeding silk worms.

At half after two we passed through another village called Basooa, containing about three hundred houses; mostly of one story high, inhabited by Bulgarians of the Greek church, and protestants, of which each nation has its respective church. The roads are broad, and planted with the same kinds of trees as in the former village. At five we passed through another village called Ingia, inhabited by Bulgarians, whose habitations are all huts, except the church, which is built of brick, and has a steeple. The produce of this place is chiefly cattle and hay. At seven we were opposite Petchica, a town of about three hundred houses. At nine we arrived at the town of Carlovitsa, which is situated on the declivity of a hill, on the banks of the river Danube, extending from east to west north west, about a mile :

mile : it contains one principal street, on the entrance of which are barracks for the garrison, and in the middle of the town is the cathedral and Romish church. In this town is likewise the residence of the Primate of all Hungary, who is of the Greek church. I alighted at an inn in this place to pass the night, and the next morning at about five I departed, and at seven arrived at Peter-Waradin. We passed through, previous to our entering the town, the suburbs which are chiefly inhabited by protestants and Roman catholics.

The mines and fortifications of the castle extend from north to south, almost a mile. The castle itself is surrounded with a triple stone wall, and large ditches which are always full of water. Every stranger who enters the outer gate, after being examined by the officer on duty, is accompanied by a soldier to the Commander's house, and having delivered his charge to the Chancellor, or one of his
secre-

secretaries returns. The traveller is obliged to show his passport, and declare of what profession he is, and what business brought him there, or else he will not be permitted to proceed any farther. After I had been thus examined, the General, commander of the garrison, hearing that I was a British subject, desired to see me, and complying with his request, I was received by him with great affability and politeness. Having answered some questions which he proposed to me, I took my leave, and went towards the water side, where I found my baggage in the packet boat ready to cross the water, for the north and north west part of this castle are washed by the Danube, and there is no other way to cross the river, but through this fortified castle, which is partly situated on a rock, and partly on a declivity and the banks of the river. On going towards the river I passed through two gates, and over two draw bridges which were placed over two ditches full of water, and containing great quantities
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of fish. Having crossed the river, and my baggage being examined by a custom-house officer, I proceeded to Peter-Waradin, which is about half a mile distant from the river.

Peter-Waradin contains about sixteen hundred houses, some of which are three stories high, and others two, all built of brick. Those of the Greek persuasion have here five churches, and a bishop suffragan to Calovitsa—the Roman catholics have only one church. In the middle of the town is a large square, in the centre of which is a marble pyramid, curiously engraved on the top with the figures of the Holy Trinity, and the coronation of the Blessed Virgin. This pile is about twelve or fourteen yards in height.

The streets in this town are all paved, though not very well; the shops are neat, and the people very industrious. The inn which affords the best accommodation to travellers is that at the end of the above-mentioned

mentioned square on the right hand. The situation of the town being low, is exposed to great quantities of dust, which is blown into it by the winds from the adjoining hills. As I purpose leaving this place tomorrow, I shall conclude, subscribing myself,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,

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LETTER XXIII

Pest, the Capital of Hungary, July 18, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

I ARRIVED at this town yesterday about six in the afternoon, and took up my lodgings at the White Ship, an inn near the northern gate, which of all the others here, affords the best accommodations to travellers. Previous to my description of this place, I shall inform you of my journey from Peter-Waradin. I left that place on the morning of the fourteenth about four o'clock, having agreed with a man to bring me and my baggage in a cart with three horses, for eight florins, and a florin and a half extra for a mat with bows and strings, in order to form a covering to the cart.

The country through which I then
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passed is very low and marshy, and in several places abounds with small lakes ; it is but thinly inhabited, and the few villages which it contains, chiefly consist of cottages and huts. Horned cattle and poultry are the chief productions of the country. Their bread is made of rye, sometimes mixed with wheat, India corn, and millet ; hay is likewise sometimes made in great abundance. The inhabitants are mostly of the Greek church, or protestants ; the Emperor has likewise settled here some Swabs from Bohemia and Austria. In my journey I saw about twelve villages, each containing two or three hundred houses or cottages, inhabited by these. They are a very industrious people, but from what I saw, they appear to have made choice of very unhealthy spots for their habitations, as they are mostly built on very marshy ground ; the streets of their villages are of course very muddy and dirty, and the walls of their huts are mostly made of slime covered with rushes. In short, in scarce any of these villages

lages can a traveller find any accommodations; for though there are several inns on the road, I chose rather to sleep in my cart than put up with the conveniences which they afforded.

About three miles before I arrived at Pest, I passed through a small town situated on the banks of the Danube, in which are two or three noblemen's houses, which, in that country, make a very magnificent appearance, having to each of them very spacious gardens. The rest of the houses are not contemptible, being most of two stories high, and having to each of them little gardens; the streets being likewise planted on both sides with trees, give to the town a very neat and pleasant appearance.

When I had passed this town about half a mile, I came to the camp pitched for the purpose of assembling the troops which were to be reviewed the next month by the Emperor; they are about
forty-

forty-five thousand in number. Here I was stopt again at the bar, and underwent another examination by an officer; after which I continued my journey, admiring the beautiful country with which Pest is, on all sides surrounded, till I entered the town.

Pest is very agreeably situated, being on the western parts washed by the Danube. The town whose circumference is in the whole between two and three miles, is surrounded by an old stone wall, the south and south west parts of which are very much out of repair. The houses which are mostly of three stories high, are very commodious, and built of free stone, and in the inside the rooms are very spacious and lofty. The military academy and the academy of arts and sciences are noble edifices; the churches, the town house, and several noblemen's houses are superb pieces of architecture; and the inns, which are likewise all built of stone, by the regularity of their structure, do not at all

take away from the elegance of the whole. The streets are broad and well paved. In the middle of the town is a square, in which stands the town house or magistrate, ornamented on the top with an elegant clock. Around the square are many handsome houses and shops; and in the center is a magnificent fountain. In short, the whole town, though not large, is very elegant, and pleasantly situated.

Near Pest there is found a certain kind of dust lately discovered, of which a composition is made like marble. I saw some pillars, the ceiling and walls of a coffee house made of this composition, which at first sight could not be distinguished from marble.

Opposite Pest, on the west north west of the Danube, is situated the city of Buda, which extends on its banks, from north to south, and on the declivity of two hills, for two miles in length; in the

the middle of the hill, on the top of it, is the castle of Buda, of about three quarters of a mile in length, and about three hundred and fifty yards in breadth, and surrounded with a stone wall, not in very good repair. It has four gates opposite the four points of the compass. The south of the castle is divided into two parts; the northern forms a small town; and in the southern are the garrison and the royal palace, formerly the residence of the kings of Hungary. Between the northern and southern parts is a large oblong well-paved square, of about eighty yards in length and twenty in breadth; to the north of which is a fountain, built of a reddish-coloured marble, the basin of which is in form of an octagon; in the middle of it is a pedestal, but no statue on it; from one of its sides there is a large leaden spout, which emits water, falling from thence into the basin. On the outside of the fountain are two cocks, from which the people draw water.

From the square are two streets, one leading towards the north east, the other to the north west; on the right hand of the former is the church and convent of the Jesuits, both of them fine buildings. The church is still dedicated to divine service; but the convent is converted into a chancery, and other offices. On the west of the church is a small square well paved, in the middle of which is a pyramidal structure of marble, of about thirty feet in height, on the top of which is the figure of the Holy Trinity. The pile stands on an hexagon pedestal surrounded with statues, representing the four cardinal virtues, together with some saints; on the corners of the pedestal are other marble figures with gilded crowns, representing angels with trumpets, and some of St. Peter's successors. In the street to the north west, are houses elegantly built, from two to three stories high. To the west of the southern part of the square is the street which leads to the southern gate, in which is likewise the
western

western gate. Near the eastern gate is the guard house; and between these two, another gate which leads to the barracks and the officers' quarters; a church is built to the east of these; and on the south stands the royal palace, pleasantly situated, and commanding an extensive view on all sides. Towards the west there are two wings, between which, is the principal gate leading into the palace, which is a regular piece of architecture of three stories high, and has on the top of it a turret and a clock. On the western part of the palace is a small square, from which a street leads to the southern gate of the castle, which is arched, and about twenty yards in breadth, by which and the north eastern only, carriages pass and repass to and from the castle; for the ascent to the eastern and western gates being very steep, and the hill not admitting a serpentine road, render it impossible for carriages to enter by them.

To the west of the hill on which the
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castle

castle is situated, are the suburbs, where are some noblemen's houses which form a very elegant appearance. The gardens adjoining to all the houses in the suburbs, which are quite in a valley, afford a pleasant view to one beholding them from the top of the castle; and the declivities of the hills on both sides, being planted with fine vineyards which produce excellent wine, add to the beauty of the scene. The houses of Buda are all built of stone, and of two stories high; the streets are likewise paved, and tolerably broad. The Christians of the Greek persuasion have here two churches, and one at Pest.

Over the above-mentioned river is a wooden bridge formed on large boats, of rather more than half a mile in length, and about six yards broad; on both sides is a foot path and railing. On the Buda side, carriages and horses pay toll; on this side is likewise a draw bridge for the convenience of country ships to pass and repass.

And

And now, sir, as I have concluded my description of these two towns, permit me to take my leave till my arrival at Vienna, for which place I shall set off to-morrow morning. I am,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,

S. L.

LETTER XXIV.

Vienna, July 22nd, 1786.

DEAR SIR,

I LEFT Pest the 19th instant at eight in the morning, after having agreed with a coachman who had three other travellers, for eight florins, to carry me and my baggage from thence to Vienna. Having passed over the bridge we came to Buda, where we were stopt for examination by the custom-house officers, but having obtained from us a small fee, and being convinced that we were not merchants, they did not give us much trouble.

We now began our journey through a fine country well cultivated, and planted with vineyards and fruit trees of different kinds. The roads are tolerably good, and shaded

shaded on both sides with lofty trees in some places, and in others with fine woods. The hills rendered beautiful by culture, and the whole country by the pleasing variety of its productions, could not but excite a pleasure in contemplating the happy effects of human industry. And in short, the amusement afforded by these delightful prospects, was the only enjoyment I was likely to possess during this part of my journey, for my fellow travellers speaking no other language than German, I could not enjoy the pleasure of their conversation, nor gratify my curiosity by obtaining an account of the different places through which I passed.

At noon we dined at a small town called Batchica; and departing at two, we drove at the rate of five miles an hour, and at eight in the evening stopt for the night at an inn, in a village called Cants.

The next morning at five we continued our journey, and passed through different villages,

villages, till we at eight, arrived at one called Babuna, where we breakfasted ; at nine we proceeded forwards till noon, when we arrived at the town of Roap, for dinner, and put up at an inn called the Lamb, in the suburbs, which is reckoned the best there. This town is situated on the banks of the Danube, which here forms two lakes on the outside of the walls, over which, and the river, are wooden bridges. The town is fortified, and the ditch with which it is surrounded is always full of water. It contains seven parishes, of three different persuasions, namely, Greeks, Protestants, and Roman Catholics. The houses and streets are moderately large, and the inhabitants are apparently of a very affable disposition. The country round about lies low, on which account it is sometimes overflowed by the river.

At half after two we left this place, and travelling through several towns and villages, we arrived about six in the evening

ning at Wisleburgh, but the inn at which we were to sleep was so full of travellers that we could meet with no accommodations, and were therefore obliged to pass the night in the coach. At six the next morning, being the 21st, we departed, and continued our journey till nine, when we breakfasted in a small village, and then proceeded towards the last town in Hungary, called Brooks, where we arrived about noon. When I arrived here, the custom-house officer opened all my baggage, spread every thing on the ground in the open street, examined every article, and one of them asked me in Latin whether I had any herbs about me; not knowing that they meant tobacco—I answered that I was not a physician; but this answer not satisfying him, he searched farther, till at length he discovered a small cannister which contained about two ounces of snuff; this being the herb of which he was in quest, he immediately seized it. I felt my indignation rise against the fellow's insolence, who not only abused
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my things by exposing them to the dust, but was mean enough to deprive me of that which had been my most constant and agreeable companion during my whole journey. The under-commissioner remonstrated to him, against being so strict about so mere a trifle, but the brutal fellow insisted on seizing not only the snuff but the cannister likewise ; this I opposed, and was forced to go into the castle before his master, whose brutality was not less than that of the man : a Greek merchant, however, who was going to Vienna, and whose snuff, to the quantity of about three ounces, had been likewise seized, acted as my interpreter, and by his means I obtained my cannister, and a box full of my snuff. I mention to you this circumstance, to give you some idea of the meanness of the officers of the Imperial custom house, and of the tobacco officers in particular. How different to the conduct of our British custom-house officers to strangers, who sometimes do not even insist on opening their small parcels.

Brooks,

Brooks, as I before mentioned, is the last town of Hungary ; it is situated near the Danube, and surrounded with a wall of brick and stone intermixed, on the outside of which is a ditch quite round. It contains about nine hundred houses, some built of stone, others of brick, of which the former are mostly of two stories high ; the streets are but indifferently paved, but tolerably broad ; the inhabitants are mostly Protestants and Roman Catholics. The suburbs which are on the road to Vienna, contain the custom house, a few inns, and about a hundred houses. About five miles from this town, the Austrian territories begin, a country well cultivated, and as well inhabited.

The road from Buda to Vienna is very good, and the country delightful, for the river Danube, which sometimes overflows its banks, renders it very fertile ; though the inhabitants sometimes experience great loss by it, in the destruction of their cattle. The Austrians are much more industrious

dustrious in cultivating their lands than the Hungarians ; for during the whole of my journey through the Austrian territories, I did not discover an acre of ground but was well tilled ; whereas in Hungary I saw several parts of their country in a state of total uncultivation.

At length about eight o'clock in the evening of the 22nd, I arrived at Vienna, and alighted at the custom house, which is near the eastern gate of the city, or, as it is vulgarly called, the Hungarian Gate, and thence was conducted to an hotel opposite, called the White Ox. The next morning being directed by one of the men of the inn to the banker Smitmer, I there found your very friendly letter, in which I had the satisfaction of finding your health perfect, and the means of quickly seeing you again, as well as your letter of recommendation to Sir Robert Keith. Hearing that he was in town, I went and delivered it to him, who received me with the greatest affability, and promised me,

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in a friendly manner, every assistance for my future journey. I shall remain here a short time, to make myself acquainted with the country, as his Excellence desired me to make myself perfectly easy, and to stay a few days to view these parts. I remain,

Dear Sir,

Your humble servant,
S. L.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

in a friendly manner, every assistance for
my future journey. I shall remain here
a short time to make a visit to my friends
with the exception of the friends who
find me to make my little party
and to stay a few days to view the place.
I remain

Dear Sir,
Your humble servant,
J. H. P.



END OF THE FIRST VOLUME

